

THE MIDDLE EAST: A PROMISE OF PEACE AT LAST

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CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

SEPTEMBER 13, 1993 \$2.50



DAVID
CRONENBERG:
A DIRECTOR'S
OBSESSION

READY, SET, GO!

The party leaders
face a grumpy
electorate





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COVER PHOTO: David Cronenberg. Photo by David Cronenberg. Photo by David Cronenberg. Photo by David Cronenberg.

Better For The Mind

It is the wares of times, it is the election season. It opened with a real whopper on choppees—the government's purchase of wells about the purchase of military helicopters (page 25). But the subject here is a trifle, an event more uplifting even than the choppees and better for the body and mind, too. It concerns about 700 dedicated athletes, male (one a soul and female, fairly so)



LETTERS

Star wars

I was hooked to read your cover story of the CBC's "struggles to survive in a 200-channel universe" ("Prime time wars," Aug. 23). While this advice may be lost on an organization that has sucked on the public teat for 54 years, the way to survive is to produce programming that people want to watch.

Robert Swenson,
Bathurst, Que.

My employer, Baton Broadcasting, also struggles to survive in a 200-channel universe. But unlike the CBC, we do so without almost \$1 billion in annual government subsidies, an important detail you failed to include in your article.

Don Nyquist,
Stony Brook, Ont.

When the tone did for sports supercedes the tone not for cars, one never knows from day to day what *Time Power Their News* is actually on. Viewers need not sit and wait not up with the aggression of trying to avoid guests when time PDV is on and will change their allegiance to CTV because their time slot is deplorable.

Nancy Beaumont,
Calder, Sask.

CBC Radio is arguably the best in the world. It is puzzling why that same organization cannot be translated to the visual.

Christopher Joy,
Mississauga, Ont.

Good with the bad

What is expressed in "Confronted with children" (Liberty, Aug. 23) does not surprise me—and not dishearten me. If the couple in your article here are good for



Peter Mansbridge and Pamela Walker of *Prime Time News* survived

the church, and say that marriage has no value, why did they have their children baptised? Surely, these attitudes are not confined to Quebec, but are common throughout society—so-called Catholics who, from day to night, approach the church's bullet table to take or discard what suits their fancy.

Don G. Yablonski,
Scott St. Marks, Ont.

Prizeworthy

Who is the rodeo king who wrote the scintillating article on the CFL ("Slow death in the sun," Sports, Aug. 20)? R. E. Griesbach suggests that no one living north of California ever gets learned, and that we shouldn't expect Americans to learn to spell Saskatchewan. It is hard to decide whether The Sacramento Bee columnist should get a prize for arrogance or ignorance. If this piece were supposed to be humorous, both could not worry—we are not amused.

Mary Woodland,
Vancouver

The hard place

As a Canadian living abroad, I was interested to read your Aug. 23 special report on Newfoundland ("Can the youngest premier be saved?"). The time is just due for an economic restructuring that eliminates aid to fishermen whose jobs will never return and to farmers whose fields hold no prospect of profitability. Beginning with the cause of the Atlantic and Prairie provinces, benefits would include a cut in duplicate government services and savings from curtailed support of dying industries. Replacement industries, including those in high technology and tourism, should follow. If regionalism and rivalry can be avoided, this country's potential can finally be realized.

John D. Bates,
Irving, Texas

"Can the youngest premier be saved?" First what?

Marcel Dore,
Calgary, Alberta, Nfld.

First women

I am writing to correct some information in your editorial ("The politics of gender," July 25), where you state that Nova Scotia New Democratic Alison Macdonald was the first female to be elected party leader in Canada and British Columbia Rita Johnston was the first woman to become premier. This distinction actually belongs to Yukon's Wilton Littleton who was elected leader of the Yukon Territorial Progressive Conservative Party in September, 1973. Wilton, however, lost her seat in the election on Nov. 28 of that year. But as leader of the majority party, she was technically the territorial equivalent of a provincial premier until Dec. 8, 1976, when she resigned and was replaced by Chris Pearson.

Dale Spiller,
President, Yukon Party,
Whitehorse

Letters may be submitted. Please include name, address and daytime telephone. Please include in the address: National Magazine, National Magazine Bldg., 277 Bay St., Toronto, Ont. M5H 2M7. Tel: 593-1200/593-7700.

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Holly Cole, Singer

For me it goes back to when I was a kid. I've always been close friends with animals. Because we always had animals.

My horse, Andy, was my soulmate and confidant. I think the reason that

obsession and my whole life for those years before I got into music. I guess you can say I watched obsessions.

Now he lives happily on an island off the coast of Nova Scotia with a couple

How I See Obsession.

girls latch on to horses so much is because when you're a kid, you're powerless. And when you're a kid and a girl, you're even more powerless. So you feel empowered when you have a horse because it's this big animal you have control over. And no one else has more control over it because it's your horse and it knows you. Even my parents were afraid of him.

I don't have him anymore. I rode and jumped competitively from age 10 to 17 in Nova Scotia. He was my absolute

of true Maritime eccentrics. They live in a castle they built themselves and every year they build more onto it. They're the only ones on the island, except for their 52 cats - and Andy.

The incredible thing about animals is that they don't judge you in the same way people do. They don't care about your failures and successes. It's pure, unconditional love.

I've always felt that you should just let animals go. Not give them too many rules. You know, just like people.

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ANOTHER VIEW



We have seen the enemy—and it is us

BY CHARLES GORDON

Before election fever completely overtook us a week's minute to ponder the biggest problem our political system faces. It is us. It is not unemployment, the deficit, free trade, the Constitution or the environment. It is us. We are selfish, greedy and inconsistent. In an election, we are difficult to woo and, once wooed, impossible to govern.

You never know what we will do tomorrow. And if you know that, you don't know what we will do the day after that. If you are running for office, you can't be sure the promise that attracts us this week will still attract us next week.

Some observers don't think this is so bad. They remember the days when we all voted the way our parents voted, which was the way their parents voted. Certain parts of the country always voted Liberal, others always voted Tory. It took something major to change it—something like Joe Doerflinger or Pierre Trudeau. There was a suspicion that voters didn't think much in those days, just voted the way they always did. But it was fine for the political parties. They didn't have to change their ideas every election, they didn't have to watch the polls shifting drastically from day to day and wonder what the voters would be on at next Tuesday.

For these reasons, it's just that we like the new colors.

How would you like to be a politician and try to get the votes of people like us, people who wear the colors only of the current season, who watch TV programs 12 seconds at a time, the super finely grained in our fingers. People whose motto, whose guiding philosophy in politics is, in other words of life is, "What have you done for me lately?"

The "we" to me has done much for lately is not "the" Canadian. It is me, a westerner, a woman, a man, a gay, a Lebanese/Canadian, a northern Nova Scotian, a union member, a doctor, a professor, an auto worker, a nonparent, a left-hand-dominant of summer all-burgers. Let a prizefighter appear before us with a plan, a truly national policy, and we say, "It doesn't take account of my special needs"—our special needs having to do with the plight of whales, three gifted children, disabled children, people who hate seat belts, people who love lampshades, all forms of oppression, people living with leprosy.

Thinking like this, we are bound to be disappointed by public policy, and we are. So we take out our disappointment on the parties and politicians. We are this-world, this-

and-and-and-and-and. Policies in no good, we say, and we refuse all participation in it, except to vote against anyone who won't endorse the entire program of our group. Needless to say we forget that there are people less fortunate than ourselves.

Political parties are aware of our fickle nature and employ all manner of backroom pressure, politicking and other practitioners of the black arts. They use pseudo-scientific methods like focus groups and rolling polls, they use buzzwords like "spin" and "damage control." Their job is to find out which way the parade is going and put their leader at the head of it. Their job is also through advertising and media manipulation to explain whatever this week's gripe is. Their effect is to muddy people further.

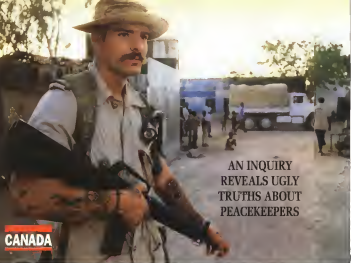
A more serious effect is to divide rather than unite. By exploiting the competing demands of groups, the political parties accentuate our differences. The differences become larger and the demands from groups increase. Fearful of offending groups, the parties back away from proposals that might be controversial.

Political expediency is as old as politics, but the aspect of it may have become more acute in 1988, when the Liberals backed out the Joe Clark Tories and rode public opposition to gasoline tax hikes into office. Needless to say, no dramatic dip in the cost of gasoline accompanied the ensuing four years of Liberal rule, but the cost was made, voters, particularly in the suburbs, were fed up and would vote their short-term interest if they could be shown that it was.

What we really need are ideas to improve us, to challenge us, to demand sacrifices of us. But we are reluctant to see any. The backroom politicking knows us too well by now. They know that such ideas will be rejected because there is not enough in them for southern Mainlanders, chipmunks, victims and associations of recreational vehicle owners. Instead of working on impractical ideas, the political pros are taking polls and forming focus groups to find out ways to make us hate their opponents and vote against them.

However frustrated, we cannot simply wash our hands of all this. We think we can solve the nation's problems without politicians. We are wrong. The trouble is that we won't help them. Instead of voting political parties, we sit outside the process in our associations and trial hats and swing away, demanding this and that. We switch our votes back and forth several times during the campaign, finally settling on one party that we then refuse to support after election because it has not done in some way.

Oddly, if there is a way out it is for the politicians to pressure us are not the way we are to treat us as indifferent and concerned Canadians with the ability to place substance over style. The country's interest above our own. Then we might act that way. There is only the alternative of change, but it might work. Any of our leaders want to govern a try?



AN INQUIRY
REVEALS UGLY
TRUTHS ABOUT
PEACEKEEPERS

The realities of peacemaking have never matched the high-mindedness of the cause. Lester Pearson, who developed the idea, promised that peacemakers would be "a moral force against aggression." On the ground, however, Canadian soldiers have frequently found themselves treated like unwelcome intruders. In the name of peace they have been spat at, shot at and—on occasion—killed. They quickly learned that agreements worked out by diplomats in Paris or Geneva are often enforceable only by bending a few rules or by employing threats and violence. But the Canadian public continued to insist

Group, painted a picture of frustrated Canadian soldiers who thought that they had come to rescue Somalis from civil war and famine but were never told "Thanks." Commented that the people they were sent to help were killing them; for food and other materials, the soldiers took to calling them "grazers"—as in "graze water, graze money"—along with "snatchers" and "big ropes." One unnamed witness told five hours that he, combined, no officers are that he had

soldier with the Canadian contingent in Somalia—Cpl Matt McKay—had belonged to a neo-Nazi group in Winnipeg. And one witness testified that 11 or 12 people wore brown tattoos symbolizing white supremacy. In the end, the board concluded that only one or two soldiers in Somalia displayed supremacist views.

the Waisai Sabans, but the United Nations encountered difficulties arguing that their own. The decision to remove the Achomres to Sorong occurred in part from the fact that its vehicles were already passing the where and most of an equipment was ready to be shipped. Initially, the Achomres were expected to be sent to Samarang in relatively small northern Sorong, but at the last minute it was shifted to the lower coast south of Bartles Town. This was not particularly good, said Col. John Levy, director, Infantry at Land Force Command Headquarters in St. Hubert, Co. "It was one small step short of going to hell." Indeed, some soldiers tried to feel at the inquiry that they had not been treated properly for the conditions they encountered in Sorong.

Canada Notes

READY, SET, GO!

With a federal election imminent, the voters are turned off politics—and the major party leaders

Mary Fradette is a 41-year-old teacher in Mahone Bay, N.S., who usually supports the New Democratic Party but is undecided as to how to vote in the coming federal election. Kelly Taitan is a 34-year-old public relations consultant in Vancouver who in the past has voted for the Progressive Conservatives, but is also now undecided. The two are separated by geography and ideology, but they share strikingly similar feelings of apathy and uncertainty about the election: "There are probably millions like me," says Fradette, "who feel that it doesn't matter how politicians conduct themselves or how many two billioners they give away. Our lives go on and we don't pay any attention." Taitan is even blunter: "I don't like any politician very much. And I certainly won't pay attention to any of them until about two weeks before the vote."

If the pundits are correct, this

Campbell in Vancouver last month—a belief that passions are worthless

CAMPAIGN '93

week's untroubled close of summer will coincide with the start of more than six weeks of federal campaigning on an Oct. 25 election. But while the country's political leaders seem impatient to get on with the fight, the same cannot be said for many of its voters. After nine years of Conservative rule, the public appetite for change is considerable—but poll after poll shows that most Canadians are, at best, uncertain about the alternatives. If the job of leader is to lay out a vision for the country and inspire hope for its future, every one of the men and women who are currently vying for the job of prime minister has so far failed the test.

The irony is that, at a time when discontent with politicians is at an all-time high, the number of parties continues to multiply. The standings in the Commons last week were Conservatives, 132; Liberals, 79; New Democrats, 43; Bloc Québécois, eight; Reform, zero; Independent, three; and eight seats vacant. These figures alone underscore the fractured nature of federal politics in the 1990s: at the time of the last election, in 1988, the Bloc Québécois did not exist and Reform was little more than a western protest movement with only 12 candidates. This time, the field will include businessman Mel Hartin's National party and the strange-but-trust Natural Law Party whose proved goal is "Heaven on Earth." If all of the parties that have announced plans to run candidates do so, one Electronic Canada official said last week, the total is likely to eclipse the 1988 record of 23.

Whatever else it may signify, the explosion in the number of new parties clearly reflects a growing sense of alienation towards the traditional elites. On the eve of the expected election call, there was a depressing sense that most of the major parties have heeded the widespread desire for change. After the October, 1992, intermission the Tories, the Liberals and the New Democrats acknowledged that they were stunted by the defeat of the constitutional proposal they had all endorsed—and all vowed to learn from the experience. And in some respects, at least, the parties have altered their campaign plans to take

account of the public mood. But if recent events are any indication, these changes are almost entirely of style rather than substance.

Unwillingness to budge from traditional methods of voter-getting has been most obvious with the two likely contenders for power: the Conservatives and the Liberals. Perhaps because the Tories are in power, their tactics are the most predictable, in tried-and-true fashion, last week they previewed the start of a campaign by announcing an avalanche of public works projects in Montreal—where Liberal support in the province is at its strongest. Transport Minister Jean Corbett, the minister responsible for the Montreal area, detailed a \$25-million project to build two viaducts east of the city. Similarly, Deputy Prime Minister Jean Charest announced a \$17-million federal contribution to rebuild a bridge to the city.

Unfortunately, the events of the past summer do nothing to dispel the impression that a politician's promises are as dependable as a hopscotch-evidence counter witness. The most obvious offender is Prime Minister Jean Campbell. To defenders, her rapid shifts on a series of major issues are proof, as one male says, that she "listens to people and is not beholden to her advisors." To others, her flipflops demonstrate that none of her commitments—a matter now controversially made—should be regarded as final. As transportation minister in January, she defended a government decision to end a federal program that provided funding for seat challenges under the Charter of

Rights and Freedoms. Last week, Campbell reiterated the program. As a candidate for the Tory leadership, she said that she would consider the idea of allowing motorists, for experimental purposes, to impose user fees on health care services. As Prime Minister, she has said that she would do everything, in black over law—although at various times, and in various ways, she has qualified her remarks. During the leadership race, she also said that she would make public, before the election, a detailed plan to eliminate the federal deficit over the next year. Now that she is Prime Minister, she says that she will do so only if re-elected.

Campbell's most publicized and controversial flip-flop, however, concerned the govern-

ment's planned \$5.5-billion purchase of 50 new military helicopters. While prime minister last year, she argued against the plan in cabinet meetings. After becoming defense minister last January, she publicly defended the government's claim that it needed at 50 aircraft, and insisted she would not scale back the purchase. Last week, she cut the number to 43 (page 23).

Some of the commitments made by Campbell's principal rival, meanwhile, appear either impossible or unwise to carry out. Liberal Leader Jean Chrétien has said that he would unseat Harold Godwin, premier John Crow to decongest the busy western oilfields in favor of lower interest rates and, in theory at least, stronger economic growth.

But the bank governor traditionally makes decisions independently from the government and even has said that he would resign if that were changed. But before it took such action, a Liberal government would first have to consider the possible consequences or the impact on money markets. By most accounts, the government's desperate would seriously undermine international confidence in the Canadian dollar. Recall the Bank of Canada might actually have to increase interest rates rather than allow them to fall. By week's end, Chrétien seemed to be seeking his usual remedy.

Chrétien has also said that he would seek to reopen the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) with the United States and Mexico in order to negotiate a better deal. But that appears to be more of a wish than a commitment, even fellow Liberals acknowledge that the likelihood of success is minimal.

Like Campbell, Chrétien has declined to elaborate on one of his most important policies until after he is elected. He has vowed to eliminate the Goods and Services Tax, but will set up what he would put in its place. Either the Liberals are prepared to see the federal deficit rise by another \$15 billion—roughly the amount raised by the tax in the last fiscal year—or they are prepared to introduce one or



Chrétien in Ottawa last week: impossible or unwise commitments

years now, the details of which they will disclose before voting day.

In fact, neither the Tories nor the Liberals have given Canadians a clear sense of what they stand for and against. The Liberals insist that they will make public most of the key elements of their platforms during the campaign. Campbell for her part, spent the summer circumnavigating the country at public expense, but has remained reluctant throughout to disclose her policies except in the most superficial terms. She has not held a news conference since she became Prime Minister on June 23. Even among Tory MPs, profound ignorance of her government's policies is part because Campbell has met her caucus only twice since becoming leader. Regularly, Campbell has spent relatively lit-

tle time with members of her own cabinet—often that Finance Minister Gilles Laroche, a close confidant, and Justice Minister Pierre Hain, the party's campaign co-chairman. Despite her public assertion that Campbell—who finished a class second in the leader ship race—would play a key role in policy development, she seldom calls on him for such advice. Private relations between the two are no better than cordial.

Perhaps it is no coincidence that the least popular of the three traditional parties, the NPD, has been the clearest and most outspoken in laying out its position on major policy issues. Among other things, the party has said that it would scrap the GST/

and the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement, proposed a 15-per-cent cut in landing and sailing for the armed forces and offered a detailed—though controversial—five-year plan to create full employment. Leader Audrey McLaughlin insists that the public's disenchantment with politicians is only one thing. "I am not so convinced in some people see that voters are so fed up," she says.

But the New Democrats' standing on open opinion polls is now so low that some members worry it will finish with fewer than the 12 seats it needs to be formally recognized in the Commons. To compensate members, the traditional standing as a major national force effectively forces it to campaign as though it had a realistic chance of turning the next government. It is a strategy that will likely

serve the NPD poorly against such owner rivals as the Bloc Quebecois and the Reform party—which can concentrate their efforts in particular areas where they have strength.

One sign of the widespread frustration with established parties is that such has spawned one or more major movements in the shape of a disaffected former supporters. The membership rules of Reform and the Bloc Quebecois include large numbers of former Tories, while many members of Martin's National party once belonged to the Liberals and the NPD. At the same time, Campbell's decision to appoint some cabinet dates over the heads of local riding associations can members may result in as many as a dozen cabinet Ministers having resigned as independents. In Quebec's Bloc/Quebecois

ring, where former owner leaders' harassment of Martin was a major factor in the party's collapse, the Bloc Quebecois' Tory and independent candidates are all former Liberals.

At a time when the need for open public debate is acute, there is a danger that the sheer number of competing voices will render detailed discussions of substantive issues almost impossible. Over the course of a 63-day campaign, voters may find the cleavage of voices more confusing than enlightening. On Saturday, the major parties and 17 independents reached agreement for English and French debates to start in October, with Campbell, Chrétien, McLaughlin and Blanchard taking part in both sessions. Manning, who does not speak French fluently, will participate fully in the English debate

but appear only briefly, with simultaneous translation, in the French session.

In one form or another, the country's governing party has been campaigning for more than six months, since Mulroney's resignation announcement on Feb. 23. Even so, he began, many voters are disoriented looking forward to the campaign's end. Toss between anger and apathy, they must decide whether to forgive their politicians or simply forget about them. In the meantime, the most successful politicians will probably be those who show themselves prepared to talk back, listen more and only make promises they know they can keep.

ANTHONY WILSON SMITH AND E. KATHY FULTON AND RANCO FULAN in Ottawa

ISSUES	CONSERVATIVES	LIBERALS	NEW DEMOCRATS	REFORM	BLOC QUEBECOIS
DEFICIT REDUCTION 	Prime Minister Jean Chrétien has vowed to reduce, over five years, the federal government's annual budget deficit (projected to be \$32.6 billion in 1992) to less than \$10 billion (with a two-year goal of \$5 billion). He has said how often would do that beyond promising not to raise taxes.	The Liberals propose to reduce the deficit gradually in about three years by cutting 10 per cent of federal operating costs, but they are vague about how they will do that. They have not said how they would compensate for the net loss in revenue—roughly \$15 billion a year.	Leader Audrey McLaughlin says that the way to reduce the deficit is to ensure that more people are working and doing things. The party plans to cut 10 per cent of federal operating costs, but they are vague about how they will do that. They have not said how they would compensate for the net loss in revenue—roughly \$15 billion a year.	One of the tenets of the Reform Party's Manifesto is to ensure that the deficit is reduced in three years, with a goal of \$10 billion. The party plans to cut 10 per cent of federal operating costs, but they are vague about how they will do that. They have not said how they would compensate for the net loss in revenue—roughly \$15 billion a year.	The Bloc advocates a reduction in federal spending of about \$15 billion annually. Another \$15 billion in cuts would be required to meet the party's goal of a balanced budget. The Bloc maintains that at least \$10 billion would be taken from government spending without touching social programs.
JOB CREATION 	Increased trade and low inflation are the keys to creating jobs, the Tories say. The party says that it will launch a major new job creation program that will create 100,000 jobs in the private sector and create 50,000 jobs in the public sector. The party also plans to launch a major new job creation program that will create 100,000 jobs in the private sector and create 50,000 jobs in the public sector.	The Liberals say that they will create jobs by reducing 10 per cent of federal operating costs over five years. The party also plans to launch a major new job creation program that will create 100,000 jobs in the private sector and create 50,000 jobs in the public sector.	McLaughlin says that her party's promises—reducing 10 per cent of federal operating costs over five years—will create 100,000 jobs in the private sector and create 50,000 jobs in the public sector. The party also plans to launch a major new job creation program that will create 100,000 jobs in the private sector and create 50,000 jobs in the public sector.	The party maintains that high deficits and taxes are a threat to jobs. Reform's three-point plan calls for a major new job creation program that will create 100,000 jobs in the private sector and create 50,000 jobs in the public sector.	Bloc Leader Lucien Bouchard says that he will continue to demand increased federal funding for job creation programs in the provinces. The Bloc will also seek complete control of the unemployment insurance program in Quebec.
SOCIAL PROGRAMS 	Campbell has talked about strengthening Medicare coverage for medically necessary services, but has not said what that would include. The Tories said that some major programs will have to be cut, possibly including Old Age Security benefits for high-income earners. In 1994 and 1995, the party proposed a national day care program, but it has since scrapped that plan.	Chrétien says that he is committed to maintaining the Medicare system as it is, but he is open to making changes if necessary. The party also plans to launch a major new job creation program that will create 100,000 jobs in the private sector and create 50,000 jobs in the public sector.	McLaughlin says that her party's promises—reducing 10 per cent of federal operating costs over five years—will create 100,000 jobs in the private sector and create 50,000 jobs in the public sector. The party also plans to launch a major new job creation program that will create 100,000 jobs in the private sector and create 50,000 jobs in the public sector.	Manning says that his party would not increase federal spending to maintain Medicare, but he is open to making changes if necessary. The party also plans to launch a major new job creation program that will create 100,000 jobs in the private sector and create 50,000 jobs in the public sector.	The Bloc says that it opposes reducing user fees and supports universal health care. The party also plans to launch a major new job creation program that will create 100,000 jobs in the private sector and create 50,000 jobs in the public sector.
CRIME AND PUNISHMENT 	The Tories recently proposed amendments to the Youth Offenders Act to give judges more power to order that young offenders be sent to jail. The party also plans to launch a major new job creation program that will create 100,000 jobs in the private sector and create 50,000 jobs in the public sector.	Among Chrétien's proposals, tougher penalties for violent crimes, more funding for women's shelters, and more funding for the private sector are among the party's proposals. The party also plans to launch a major new job creation program that will create 100,000 jobs in the private sector and create 50,000 jobs in the public sector.	McLaughlin says that her party's promises—reducing 10 per cent of federal operating costs over five years—will create 100,000 jobs in the private sector and create 50,000 jobs in the public sector. The party also plans to launch a major new job creation program that will create 100,000 jobs in the private sector and create 50,000 jobs in the public sector.	Manning says that his party would not increase federal spending to maintain Medicare, but he is open to making changes if necessary. The party also plans to launch a major new job creation program that will create 100,000 jobs in the private sector and create 50,000 jobs in the public sector.	No policies announced yet.
POLITICAL REFORM 	Campbell says that he would provide former news from collected persons with the same \$25 news from free news in the House of Commons and release MPs to disclose news information about their activities.	Along with more free news for all, the Liberals say that they will make together controls on lobbyists, including disclosure of both paid and voluntary work that lobbyists do for political parties. The party also plans to launch a major new job creation program that will create 100,000 jobs in the private sector and create 50,000 jobs in the public sector.	McLaughlin says that her party's promises—reducing 10 per cent of federal operating costs over five years—will create 100,000 jobs in the private sector and create 50,000 jobs in the public sector. The party also plans to launch a major new job creation program that will create 100,000 jobs in the private sector and create 50,000 jobs in the public sector.	The party supports more free news for all, more controls on lobbyist activities, and the right to recall unpopular MPs. Reform says that news should not be allowed to limit persons who are not allowed to be a lobbyist supporter of a party or lobbyist, effective and equity for all.	The Bloc is planning to call a Quebec independence referendum in the morning, it fears abolishing the Senate.

DILEMMA '93

Canadians are alienated, but the politicians 'just don't get it'

During the federal election of 1993, Conservative Leader John Diefenbaker stubbornly headed a train to conduct a 5,500-mile campaign across Canada. Many of his advisers, feeling a liberal rout, considered the trip just a political blunder. Train was too slow, they argued, while television stations were political showcases, ruled by the automobile to a string of blank and empty platforms. In his design cocoon, Diefenbaker could be reached only by telegram, sent to the next stop on his journey. Overhead, Liberal Prime Minister Jean Chrétien darted about the nation as a leonard Vincent jet, churning out a steady stream of news releases. The Liberals won that election, but it was no rout. They held on as a minority government with 232 of 295 seats, to the Tories' 19 and the NDP's 21. It was Diefenbaker's defiant white-tie stop campaign, dubbed though it was, that stirred the public's imagination: as the aging populist swept across the Prairies, towns after towns emerged to greet him with signs that read "He owed money to come."

The politicians who stood ready to wage the 1993 federal election can only look back in awe at the public mood inspired by Diefenbaker's quixotic journey. Since federal elections last, much of the hope and optimism that formerly colored Canadian society has vanished. Voters have never been more alienated from the political process, more cynical and tired of talk or more dispirited of their future. Politicians, accordingly, have more appeared as puppets to dismiss the impulses of power or as marionettes to project a crime image. Every move, electoral officials are scrambling to adjust to the new-wave expectations of a nation that is no longer easily convinced. "This is the first time," says pollster Michael Adams, daily companion of the irony, "that the party that promises the least may get the most."

Politicians have always faced the electorate with trepidation. With the vulnerability and guile of contestants in a beauty pageant, politi-

cian candidates in the past were panned no longer, panned and election. Ability and experience mattered, less standing before political audiences and a test of campaign promises alone mattered more. For all the differences in party platforms, the range of national leaders was clear: voters were asked to choose among three, sometimes four or five, men or women.

But these are barely normal times. The defeat at the constitutional referendum in October, 1992, represented a repudiation not only of the country's political establishment but of its business and social elites. Now, with 1.6 million people officially unemployed, and a national debt approaching \$500 billion, Canadians have made it abundantly clear that they have lost faith in the political system. In 1988, Brian Mulroney's Tories won re-election after a campaign in which they promised to "manage change." Five years later, voters no more trust the ability of their elect-



Your RCMP bodyguards are keeping the public at bay. Uh-oh—too presidential. Take one step back.

Your TV ads look too slick—should have used that hand-held Camcorder. Take two steps back.

You're a man of the people. Park that executive jet and travel the country by bus. Take another turn.



cal leaders—men or women—no message: then they mostly accept a political conservatism to deliver.

"What is not yet clear is what voters plan to do about it. 'There's something going on out there at a very deep level,'" says Richard J. Davies, a veteran Ottawa lobbyist who now plots strategy for the Calgary-based Reform party. "Candidates are ready to explore some serious changes to the way this society operates."

Those changes are certain to affect the role of politicians: they voters. In Canada and abroad, the political mood of the 1990s is perhaps best captured by the refrain "They just don't get it." Only days before Ottawa virtually closed down the East Coast fishery and tossed its way as 12,000 people out at work, Public Security Minister Doug Lewis complained in a reporter about the weekly influx with the 11 percent unemployment rate. "No matter how you slice it," he said, "98 per cent of the people are waiting."

They just don't get it.

The New Democratic Party and its leader, Audrey McLaughlin, have repeatedly accused the Tories of selling out Canadian jobs to the Americans in the 1985 Free Trade Agreement. Amazingly, the party recently hired a Washington, D.C., firm to help produce the party's election video.

They just don't get it.

The Liberals have spent the past three years backing any detailed public discussion of party policy issues, they explained. They were afraid that other parties would steal their ideas.

They just don't get it.

In the search for ways of coping with the unsettled 1990s, Canadian politicians are probably overlooking the lessons of the 1992 U.S. presidential election. One of the most obvious lessons concerns the electorate's volatility. In 1991, thanks largely to the Gulf War, George Bush

was the most popular leader in the Western world. A year later, Americans decided that he was out of control and dumped him in favor of the previously obscure governor of Arkansas, Bill Clinton. And Clinton's victory points up the importance of another factor: the extent to which voters can identify with a politician. Says Liberal pollster Michael Manning: "They loomers looked at the Clinton-Bill and Hillary—and could see themselves going in no closer or in a closer with them. They weren't ordinary, but they were very representative."

Late wonder: then, that Canadian political leaders may voters to think of them as just one of the folk? The fashion industry may grumble, but Tory campaignsters were delighted that Prime Minister Jim Campbell placed a low priority on how many outfits she owns. (In no week of that dress may suit those past years.) Instead, Campbell's friend Joan Laes, a Vancouver art gallery owner, announced to shed his image as yesterday's man. Liberal Leader Jean Chrétien joined for his official campaign poster in a blue denim Gap shirt, rather than the more conventional dark suit. While Campbell danced the most in Toronto, Chrétien wore short-sleeved shirts for a photograph at his cottage near his favorite town of Sheshegan, Que. McLaughlin, meanwhile, has clung to her habit of refusing to wear fur. She has even taken Chrétien's opponent, despite the fact he wore leather in 1989. And Alberta Leader Peter Manning, the millionaire son of a former Alberta premier, has cultivated a popular image with a down home, "no-shades" manner—and a collection of string ties.

Of more practical strategic value, the U.S. election provided numerous examples of what works in the 1990s—and what does not. Clinton's decision to do much of his campaigning by helicopter to reach the below image of accessibility. Not to be outdone, Chrétien embarked this spring on his own campaign bus tour of Quebec, the Maritimes and southern Ontario. Both Clinton and independent candidate Ross Perot learned how to bypass the traditional media outlets—media hostile to

staging electronic news hall meetings and appearing on cable television shows such as Larry King Live. "You know why I can still you in the press conferences?" Clinton teased reporters last March. "Because Larry King threatened me that you to giving me to the American people directly."

Since then, Manning has been a national celebrity rock star, has interviewed Campbell, Manning and Chrétien—who also has the distinction of being the first national party leader to appear on the CTV afternoon talk show *Shirley Say*. Kevin Stans, president of the Liberal election advertising team: "Politicians will win



Big mistake. You told Erica your favorite musical instrument to a cello. Miss a turn.

Looking for safe questions? Sidestep the traditional media and chat about your love life with MuchMusic's Erica. Don. Move forward one space.



Your campaign staff forgot to Buy Canadian. Return to start.

Instating Bill Clinton, you converse on electronic town hall meeting. Real people, real politics, real TV. Roll again.

Caught wearing Gucci shoes. Return to start.

Unemployment? You can't wave a magic wand and put people back to work, but at least you sure. Take four steps forward.

POSTMODERN POLITICS

Fragility is in, empathy is crucial and less is more. In the 1990s, image still counts—it's just that the rules have all changed.

START

You wear the same outfit to three different events in the same week, proving you're no clotheshorse. Roll again.

places they never dreamed they'd find themselves. Basically, they'll stop wherever they can get it in front of as many eyeballs as possible as many eyes as they can."

On a midmorning television program last spring, three conservative Tory delegates in different parts of the country discussed their likely choices at the approaching June leadership convention. Two of them commented favorably about long-shot candidate Jean Edwards. After taping the segment in his Toronto office, John Lachyngier, Edwards' campaign manager, used a computer to draft three letters, complete with Edwards' signature. Lachyngier then transmitted the letters to Edwards in Calgary for approval. At 8 p.m. that day, a computer delivered the letters to Canada Post, which relayed them to post offices in the cities where the delegates lived. Later, protesters transmitted the letters onto paper airplanes and then into such additional news holes "10 a.m. the next day," remarks Lachyngier. "The delegate was reading Steve Sarantidis, thank you very much for the nice things you said about me yesterday afternoon."

The challenge for candidates this fall is similar—to break through the barrage of campaign messages with a better, clearer and more personalized message of their own. "The Tories dominated in 1984 and 1988 was based in part on the party's mastery of technology. It's simply the party organized its rivals with a lightning-fast internal communications network and a direct route that targeted anchored voters in swing ridings. These techniques are now standard fare for any party that can afford them. "People are going to try to find that swing voter and persuade him with direct mail with questionnaires, with phone calls," says Lachyngier.

"They're much as low as you can get to find people who will make their difference."

The extent of 24-hour cable news channels—C-BC, NewsWorld in Canada

FINISH

You finally convinced voters that you really don't want to be PM. YOU WIN!

Damage control—you announce that the new furniture will come from IKEA. You're back in the game.

You're overheard talking about redecorating 24 Sussex. Miss a turn.

You announce that you're more used to holding doors open for women than competing against them. Take three steps back.

Take misleading letters to show you're not a cultural elitist. Take two steps forward.

You mentioned the word "Constitution." Go directly to jail.

You honestly spill out your plans to reform Medicare. Double move—win a turn.

do, CNN almost everywhere—has added a roller coaster element to that style of guerrilla warfare. Basic by note, Clinton used CNN to counter attacks from Bush with some-day responses that stirred the headlines to his own remarks rather than the initial story. With a similar strategy in mind, the Tories have installed a satellite dish atop their Ottawa headquarters to monitor television live news reports on the campaign. As a result, the party will be able to monitor what will be reported on the evening news long before it is broadcast to the rest of the country.

In the past, political parties engaged not in strategy at the beginning of a campaign but hoped that nothing unexpected unfolded it. Now, strategists would regard that approach as risky. If not downright foolhardy. During the 1988 televised leaders' debate, then Prime Minister John Turner knew that the audience was responding favorably to his impassioned attacks on free trade—because politicians concealing his viewing audience by telephone while the program was on the air told him so. In the past, campaign shifts in strategy are expected to hinge on an even closer tracking of public opinion. "Every morning we will be able to review everything of the electorate the night before," says Liberal pollster Marcello. "If someone makes an unfortunate speech or concern for us rises, we'll know about it immediately."

Most voters will be surprised by how much political parties know about them. Computer technology has peeled open the doors of private homes to pinpoint with ever-ascending accuracy who lives where. Ronald Akocik, who resigned this season as a Liberal MLC in Manitoba to run for the party leadership in Winnipeg South, has blended the official record with computerized information of his own. One of Akocik's priorities targets groups with similar interests in his riding of 63,000 voters, according to his health voters panel. Liberal letters signed at the last provincial and federal elections, and another notes which ones have called his office for information. "A politician never wants to forget anybody," says Akocik.

At a breakfast in the Alberta town of Taber in 1988, the late John Glen-Glen, then 70, told an audience of school children "I only wish that I could come back when you're my age to see the kind of Canada that you'll see." Twenty-eight years later, many of the people who heard those words have children of their own. "Some are probably now doctors, lawyers or are most are more down-classed with the political system than Glen-Glen could have imagined. And it will take more than a visit to their home town by Kim Campbell, Jean Chretien or one of the other party leaders to restore their shattered faith."

I have no plans to reduce the number of helicopters. This is not a particularly efficient way to reduce costs.

—Deleane Minister Kim Campbell, May 5, 1990

I am announcing the reduction in the helicopter program from 307 to 43. This decision will yield savings of close to \$1 billion.

—Prime Minister Kim Campbell, Sept. 2, 1989

As an alternative, it called the unavailability of the costly piece of hardware at the center of a later political fight. For European-built, state-of-the-art EH-101 helicopters. For months as defense minister, Campbell used her grandiose reputation for grandiose ideas to promote the \$1.6-billion 30-helicopter purchase initiated last year by her predecessor in the portfolio, Marcel Masson. But last week, on the eve of an election call, Campbell dropped that the line had come to a halt. It was a political decision that threatened to create turbulence throughout the campaign. Grounding seven of the controversial machines, Campbell said that the demands of deficit reduction had overruled her previous conviction. "I'm Prime Minister now," she explained, "and I am responsible for the entire government and the entire question of how we're going to get to zero deficit within five years."

For Campbell, it took an ingrained view of the Gerald Goddard from the Prime Minister's campaign group to bring about a change of heart. But some without the vision offered by the highest office, her successor in Defense, Tony Silken, had no trouble embracing the new numbers. Remembered at a press conference of Campbell's former deputy, Silken noted pointedly that he was now the minister and he was satisfied that the effort was in order. As the reporters pressed, he appeared to lose his patience, admonishing them at one point. "Sometimes you guys are so preoccupied with the truth that you don't understand that time changes a lot of things."

The election-year announcement of mass, indeed, change seemed a concern of the helicopter purchase program, as says that politicians and military specialists could not agree on last week. Among the two expressed a view.

The costs: First, in a change of view, the government accepted the opposition's insistence that the real cost would total \$5.8 billion, a figure that includes the government's estimate of the potential impact of inflation over the 25-year delivery period on the \$4.4-billion contract signed last year. Last week, the defense department calculated a \$660-million saving from canceling



PROPELLER FLIP-FLOP

Kim Campbell changes her mind about the need—and cost—of buying helicopters for the military

CAMPBELL '93

...and that they would have to review their commitment to spend \$2.2 billion in Canada under the contracts for 30 aircraft.

The cancellations. The cutoff left the order at 15 helicopters for search and rescue missions scheduled to be delivered by the end of 1991. It also forced the purchase of second-generation models from \$5 to \$12. The defense department considers the EH-101 to be ideal for the navy's job of watching Canada's coast. Last week, Liberal leader Jean Chretien ordered his party's position that the current navy and Coast Guard helicopters could be refurbished at a substantial saving over the EH-101 program, which he did not sign a cost. And some officials insist that the real of the Cold War means that Canada does not need the military helicopters at all.

The campaign. Whatever its merits militarily and economically, the helicopter reversal may make it a lot more difficult for the Tories to portray their major opponent, Chretien, as a volatile whose changes of mind make him unfit to run the country. Last week's announcement may not have reduced the EH-101's appeal as an elusive weapon—it may simply have given the versatile helicopter a different combat role in the campaign.

BYRON HARRIS

THREE-WAY RACE

The Conservatives' Quebec fortress is under siege by Liberals and the Bloc Québécois

Rene Hébert is ready, as primed for battle as she has ever been. By way of proof, the 45-year-old Hébert sits on her desk. "On every one of those cards I have the name of a likely Liberal voter—and a potential party worker," boasts Hébert, a Liberal organizer. She throws an arm towards the window, beyond which roll the hills of Blainville, opposite Masson Island on the St. Lawrence River's south shore. "We got 15,000 red cards for this riding alone," she continues, "and we're almost the same shape in each of the other 14 ridings I'm helping to organize." Posing to subvert an over-praised cigarette, Hébert declares: "It's time to get the show on the road."

The show, of course, is the federal election campaign. And for those who anticipate the end of the Conservatives' nine years of domination in Quebec, Hébert is an understandably impatient to get on with the job. Since Malinowski's Tories have ruled the province ferociously ever since Sept. 4, 1986, when they captured 56 of 111 70 seats. In 1988, the Tories ended their Quebec reign to 63 seats. And now, despite defections to the Bloc Québécois in 1990 and two by-election losses, the PCs have 56 Quebec seats. The Liberals hold nine, the Bloc Québécois eight and the New Democrats are close next to victory.

But the next Parliament is likely to be far different. Most polls suggest that the province's voters are almost equally divided among Prime Minister Jean Charest's Liberals and Jacques Parizeau's Bloc Québécois. Even partisan observers like Hébert, a Liberal organizer for the past 20 years, concede that the race is likely to be close. "I have a hunch that we are going to see an awful lot of contests decided by less than

a thousand votes," she says.

All three of the main contenders enter the campaign with proven strengths and glaring weaknesses. The Bloc Québécois is, in many ways, best positioned. The Bloc was founded in July, 1990, by Parizeau, a socialist Tory cabinet minister who broke with Malinowski over the province's last two efforts to join the March-Lake accord. With a small band of unhappy Quebec liberals, Parizeau launched an assault against the

CANADIAN '93

Canadian federation from within Parliament. Over the past three years, each party poll has ranked the federally separated party as the favored choice of between 30 and 40 per cent of Quebecers. And until Campbell's recent surge, Parizeau had been the province's most popular politician. Bored with his three failures as an even more significant setback, Malinowski's Liberals, the Bloc's support has held steady at about half of devoted voters. "In francophone ridings," says Bob Doherty, the Bloc's chief organizer, "I think we are going to be pretty hard to beat."

The Bloc's campaign, in fact, is unanimously geared to win the francophone majority. Not one of the 70 Bloc candidates nominated so far is an anglophone. Only one draws from the province's burgeoning immigrant population. While Bloc officials publicly bewail the lack of representation there beyond the ranks of the "pure wool" French-speaking majority, they make no attempt to attract non-francophone candidates. And they readily acknowledge the trap: "It means that we have no chance at all in 15 or 20 ridings, mostly at the western end of Montreal island," Doherty says.

The Bloc's stated goal is to win 50 separate MPs to Ottawa. Privately, the figure is lower, somewhere between 25 and 40 seats. The party appears to have the organizational muscle to accomplish the task, thanks to the support of the like-minded Parti Québécois. 94%, many of whose members worked for the Tories in 1984 and 1988. It also has the money, largely as the result of a timely \$1.5-million loan from the pro-independence Desjardins credit union organization that Quebecers historically vote in

for the party they believe will best represent their interests in Ottawa—usually the party going to take power. The Bloc's seat count may depend on its ability to convince Quebecers that their best interests lie with a party dedicated entirely to defeating Quebec's view, but which has no chance at winning power. The party's best-case scenario is to hold the balance of power in a divided House of Commons.

But in the end, the Bloc may lack the quality credentials required for a major electoral breakthrough. The party has been unable to attract any of the national media, or stars. Most high-profile sovereigntists have chosen to hold their fire until and past the expected general election. Aside from Parizeau and a few others—such as former PQ cabinet minister Francine Lalonde, running in the eastern Montreal riding of Mercier—most of the party's standard-bearers are known only locally. The list of candidates is lackluster enough to lead observers to the charge that the Bloc is the "B Team" of the Parti Québécois.

For Quebec's Liberals, the problem is nearly the reverse. While the party has been able to field a slate of high-profile candidates, Liberal fortunes in the province are hampered by the incapacity of the leader, Jean Charest. "For most francophones, Charest is a bad dream, a nightmare even," claims Bloc Quebecers candidate Lalonde.

Although Lalonde's view is freshly proven, the polls suggest that it is well-founded. A survey conducted in late August by the respected CIBC polling firm found that only 11 per cent of Quebecers regarded him as a leader in Charest's leadership. Campbell, in contrast, was the choice of 38 per cent of Quebecers, while Parizeau received a 25-per-cent approval rating.

Charest's image is so poor in Quebec that even some Liberals consider a possible shift to the left. The St-Maurice riding, which includes his hometown, Shawinigan, halfway between Montreal and Quebec City. The Conservatives, wounded by charges of sexual impropriety levelled against Denis Desrosiers, the riding's winner, do not appear to be much of a threat in St-Maurice. But the Bloc is poised to enter. New Democratic Party candidate Claude Rousselle against Charest's son, who was an aide to former NDP leader Ed Broadbent, ran ahead of the Liberals in 1988 and may do even better with the Bloc. "Charest is probably safe as long as the voters in St-Maurice think they are voting for a genuine socialist," cautions one Liberal organizer. "That watch out if they start to get the idea that he is not about to carry the rest of the country."

Facing with Charest's low level of personal appeal, the Liberal campaign strategy in Quebec is designed to win the party as a team. Of the 72 candidates nominated, over

a dozen carry the label of candidate that can pave the way to a cabinet post. Marie Massé, a highly respected former federal government minister in Hull/Ottawa, heads a list that includes, among others, former Quebec Liberal cabinet minister Clément Lacelle and former Quebec City mayor Jean Pelletier.

The Tories' main strength in Quebec is the individual at the helm. Late October Canadian, Quebecers know the Campbell brand-

the Tories are notoriously weak on the ground. "In 1984 and 1988, it was the Parti Québécois machine that put the Tories in power," says Bloc organizer Doherty. "That machine is now working for us." Its main critics voice for Campbell, Premier Robert Bourque's provincial Liberal machine, which also had a hand in both of Malinowski's sweeping victories, has so far remained largely on the sidelines. Furthermore, a succession of political and personal scandals among

the Tories' parliamentary ranks has strained and discredited the party.

Still, the Conservatives are not without assets. "They have all the money," gleefully notes former Tory MP Pierre Venne, seeking re-election as a Bloc candidate in the Montreal suburb of St-Hubert. In addition, the Tory side includes such heavyweight as Deputy Prime Minister Jean Charest, Finance Minister Miles Lamont and Privy Council President Pierre Blais. Jean Lesage, novelist and grandson

of the founder of Quebec's Quiet Revolution is running for the Tories against Venne in St-Hubert. All the same, the Tories' declining dominance of federal politics in Quebec may be coming to an end. And the answer is which Quebecers choose to fill that void seems sure to have repercussions far beyond their borders.

BARRY CAMPBELL is Montreal



Parizeau in Quebec City, hoping to hold the balance of power

Fast Pain Relief (Now in a ball point)

No other ball point pen gives you Paper Mate's Flexigrip. With no smooth, rubberized barrel. And only the chrome-tipped Flexigrip comes in vivid red and purple as well as red, blue and black ink pens.

Experience the full line of Flexigrip writing, ball pens and highlighters only from Paper Mate. Recommended by 10 out of 10 fingers, no prescription necessary.

Paper Mate® Flexigrip. The comfortable pen.

Communicate with
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PEACE GETS A CHANCE

AFTER SECRET TALKS, ISRAEL REACHES A STUNNING AGREEMENT WITH AN ARCHENEMY

A independent Palestinian state on being able by side with Israel? The very thought of it brings to mind the biblical prophecy of the coming of the Messiah, when the lamb and the wolf, natural enemies, shall dwell together in peace. But what was once an improbable dream became a realistic goal last week, Israeli and Palestinian officials said that they had reached tentative agreement on a phased introduction of Palestinian self-rule in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. Israeli's cabinet quickly approved the proposal. And both sides said that the deal, struck in secret meetings in Norway, could be signed as early as this week at the eleventh round of Arab-Israeli peace talks in Washington.

Just last week, another startling Israeli-Palestinian agreement was announced: Israel's Foreign Minister Shimon Peres declared, "The beginning of the end to the 100-year conflict between us and the Palestinians is coming." After 22 months of largely fruitless Arab-Israeli peace talks under the auspices of the United States and Russia,

events unfolded last week with stunning speed. News of the Palestinian autonomy deal had barely sunk in when negotiators from both sides of Israel and Moslem-allied Syria separately predicted that Jerusalem and Damascus would soon reach agreement on a framework for peace. That would entail Israel's withdrawal from the

strategic Golan Heights in return for full sovereignty and trade relations with Syria. Meanwhile, a Jerusalem official acknowledged that there is "a high chance" that Amman and Jerusalem will sign a draft peace agreement during the current round of Washington talks. And a NATO official said the Lebanese in close close to a settlement with Israel. Middle East analysts predict the last-hurdle developments with a mixture of surprise and optimism. Said William Quandt, an expert at the Washington-based Brookings Institution: "If Syria joins the peace, the Arab-Israeli conflict is on the way to being resolved."

The Israeli-Palestinian agreement announced last week proposes almost immediate autonomy for the occupied Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho (age 30). And there would be limited self-rule for the rest of the West Bank during a five-year interim period. Talks on the final status of the occupied territories, captured by Israel during the 1967 Middle East war, would begin two years after the agreement is implemented. Although the Israeli government officially favors some form of eventual Palestinian confederation with a single bordering Jordan, many Arabs and Israelis alike saw the accord as the first step towards an independent Palestinian state.



Light-ming Israelis protesting the historic agreement, predicting of continued violence

on the final status of the occupied territories. Among the questions:

- The status of Jerusalem. Israel has steadfastly refused to consider any compromise over its capital, which includes Jerusalem's Old City. For Israel, Jerusalem is the city as the future capital of their own independent state. The issue is the most contentious between the two sides.

- The status of over 114 Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza, where more than 180,000 Israelis live among 1.6 million Palestinians. Their rights under a future Palestinian government must be considered.

- Security arrangements. The two sides must agree where to deploy Israeli troops currently stationed in the West Bank and Gaza, and decide what powers the proposed Palestinian police force will have over Arabs and Israelis.

Palestinian refugees. The PLO wants the right of return for more than 400,000 Arabs who fled the West Bank and Gaza, mostly to Arab countries, during the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. Israel is concerned that such an influx will bolster the PLO's demand for an independent state—a concept many Israelis see as not yet ready to accept.

Although Western governments applauded the Israeli-Palestinian agreement, domestic critics condemned it—and also expressed their opposition violently. In the Israeli town of Netzer, Moshe Yishai, Robert's cabinet minister on Jerusalem, led a vote on the proposal, about 4,000 Israeli rioters gathered outside, burnt the caps of police who tried water cannon to disperse them. Benjamin Netanyahu, leader of the main opposition Likud party, threatened to bring down the Labor-led coalition government. Jewish settlers showed their opposition by declaring a new settlement in the West Bank. And an extreme right-wing Jewish group, Kach, announced its intention to assassinate the prime minister.

A key part of the agreement, known as the "interim" plan to resolve the conflict in the occupied territories, is a development plan to revitalize the Palestinian economy. It covers areas Israel-Palestinian action, financed by Arab, European, Japanese and American money to improve housing, water supplies, electricity and roads in the West Bank and Gaza, which have stagnated during 30 years of Israeli occupation. Said Richard Hume, a Middle East adviser to former U.S. president George Bush: "The Palestinian need to expand progress at the pace will be an important step in their lives."

The Gush-Ezer PLO (pro-Palestine) leaves unanswered several important questions. Discussions of these issues will likely be delayed for two years, when negotiations begin.

Analysis predicted more such violence in the weeks to come, as the agreement's impact was felt. In the West Bank, a Jewish settler was killed in a drive-by shooting. In the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian was killed in a drive-by shooting. In the West Bank, a Jewish settler was killed in a drive-by shooting. In the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian was killed in a drive-by shooting. In the West Bank, a Jewish settler was killed in a drive-by shooting. In the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian was killed in a drive-by shooting.

World Notes

KISILEM SHAKELUP

Russian President Boris Yeltsin welcomed his rebellious vice-president, Alexander Rutskoy, and his loyal deputy prime minister, Vladimir Shcherbakov, because of corruption charges. A presidential form of corruption investigations and last week, they had evidence against Rutskoy in a stolen bank account containing funds reported immediately from Russia. Rutskoy, who denies any wrongdoing, recently named Shcherbakov in connection with allegations that funds for holy land were misappropriated. Shcherbakov also denied the charge.

LOVE CULT BREAKING UP

In Argentina, authorities detained 327 people, including the Canadian, following a raid on an alleged neo-Nazi celebration. Thirty leaders and members of the Fraternity of the Argentine branch of the Californian Jesus Christ of God sect, were held on charges of racketeering, kidnapping and violating the rights of children. The U.S.-based Cult Awareness Network says that the sect's adults and children along with each other in the belief that salvation comes through sex. Sect leaders deny the charge.

RUSSIANS GO HOME

Church bells pealed across Lhasa to celebrate the withdrawal of the last Russian troops from the Tibetan city. The Chinese government, which has been in the city since 1950, announced that the Soviet Union in 1950 under a secret pact between Germany's Adolf Hitler and Soviet dictator Josef Stalin.

TOP COP

Leon French, 51, was sworn in as director of the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation, replacing William Scriven, who was fired by President Bill Clinton in July amid allegations that he abused the authority of his office as a former FBI agent and judge, in the nation's fifth director.

A BOSNIAN STRALEMATE

Genova police filed broke down after Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic produced new demands for a rising Muslim republic comprising 34 percent of Bosnian territory, rather than the 30 percent offered in a plan introduced by international mediators. Muslims currently control about 10 percent of Bosnia's territory, the former Yugoslav republic. The other 10 percent, Serbia and Croatia refused to compromise.

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the issue. "After the hubbub and nonsense of the previous agreement is over, the Jewish settlers will see that they have no future," said Robert Neumann, director of Middle East studies at the Washington-based Center for Strategic and International Studies. "Some will give up and try to return to make land Israel, others will react to terrorism. Nobody on the Palestinian side will do the same. Both groups will know they can achieve nothing, but terrorism will keep them at the guns."

Sell, Israeli and Palestinian public opinion appeared to back the autonomy plan. A poll published in *Yedio Akhron* showed 52 per cent of Israelis in favor of the proposal, 45 per cent opposed. The same paper also published a poll showing that 74 per cent of Palestinians in the occupied territories support the agreement, while 24 per cent oppose it.

The Israeli-Palestinian accord is the culmination of a series of international, regional and domestic pressures on both sides. For the PLO, the end of the Cold War brought a decline in diplomatic and military support from Moscow and its Warsaw Pact allies. Arab's displaced support of Iraq in the 1991 Gulf War also cost him the moral and political leadership of many Muslims. Israel's economic and military aid to the PLO and of Jewish Arab Qatari funds (The PLO's annual budget was \$280 million in 1990, but is now about \$230 million). Meanwhile, the rising popularity of militant Arab groups in the occupied territories enabled Israel to launch a series of military operations against terrorist bases. Last week, PLO officials said that they were very close to announcing their recognition of Israel's right to exist and their renunciation of violence, preconditions for a final settlement. The PLO is the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

For Rabbi Leizer Lubovitch, director of the last year on a platform of "peace with security," neither plan had seemed attainable after 18 months in office. Rabbi Lubovitch, 60, a Hasidic Jew from the town of Lublin, Poland, said that he was willing to trade captured land for peace with his Arab neighbors. But progress was elusive during 18 previous rounds of formal negotiations; terrorist violence continued unabated and Israeli gains increasingly important for change. Spurred on by his more moderate Israeli counterparts, and cognizant of the harshness of a resolution that would require him to decide to gamble on the Camp David First proposal, he told his coalition partners last week, "The time has come to take a chance on peace." Late last week, after months of secret discussions, Arab and Israeli negotiators were putting the final touches on a number of historic agreements, including a biblical prophecy secreted away in some 700

ANDREW HILSDJ with ERIC SILVER in
Aurora and WILLIAM DOWDNEY in Washington

THE GAZA STRIP

'Enclave of gloom'

A Palestinian ghetto clamors for change

Central sand dunes take up one-third of its 125 square miles, an area about half the size of Edmonton, and the rest of its land base can barely sustain its population of more than 700,000. The borderless Guanabara Bay is among the most densely populated waterways in the world, and certainly one of the poorest. Former Israeli immigrant minister Abba Eban once described it as "a small, soured ocean of slums." About

unemployment there is as high as 48 per cent, compared with about 18 per cent in Israel. Per capita income is about \$1,700 annually, one-sixth of that in Israel. And current annual investment in Gaza is only about \$265 million. Bohar estimates that it will take nearly \$4 billion over the proposed five years of interim self-rule to make Gaza comparable with the rest of the West Bank.

In the meantime, modest poverty cut-



Gang street scene increases challenges after 24 hours of drunk occupation

450,000 of its predominantly Asian residents are religiously diverse families that grew during the boom Asia had just followed the opening of Vietnam in 1958. Today, about 350,000 Asians live in tight quarters, refugee camps, the rest in decrepit rooms and villages. In fact, the challenges of the nationwide plan made by French and U.S. officials (see below) had two even coarser: "Each sales unit should be able to do an average unit but they don't have the cash to implement it," says Perry Hoagland, an analyst with the Washington-based Middle East Institute. "Eighty per cent of the people are living off US handouts. They have no work, no opportunities and no money."

get to lead the resettlement of Jewish Palestinian in Gush, in the Judean rearguard camp late last week, Israeli soldiers spent less on about 1,800 different foodstuffs, clothing, "tooth to towel, dish to America," wandering three people inside Gush, which organized the protest it, appears any person ally with Israel and was a target of Israeli December deportations of 412 Muslim activists in south Lebanon. The president of night school in Gush promised the Secretary General, Benjamin Netanyahu, to allow peace-keeping troops and Israeli soldiers withdraw under the autonomy agreement. For the Palestinians of Gush, the future holds both security and the seeds of destruction.

ANDREW HILSBY with JEFF SELLNER
in discussion

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Jitters in Jericho

An ancient city will test the new accord

At the fast of the mousam, the grey jumbo chert goes a pale blue, the river northeast of Jerusalem, the ancient city of Jericho, a quiet oasis of flume trees, purple bougainvillea, sweet-scented jasmine, date palms and citrus groves on the West Bank of the Jordan River. Last week, the Arab community of 11,000, occupied since 1967 by the Israelis, was swayed with speculation as representatives of the PLO and the Israeli Peace Liberation Organization (IPL) struck an agreement to grant self-rule to the city and to the Golan Strip. But despite the banister scope of the breakthrough, there was a clanging in the streets of Jericho, as an excited riotous city that was chosen to grant the PLO an official forbidd in the West Bank. Instead, with no doubts of the rain, a small crowd of people gathered in the town square, and a large crowd in the sun-baked air. "Nobody has been as anyone," Jerald Kish

Jericho's Arab neighbor told Marjane: "Not the Israelis, not the PLO. They should have discussed it with us first."

The city which Joshua and the Israelites captured from the Canaanites is biblical Israel's first triumph bludgeoned down to rubble, as thought by some archaeologists to be the oldest in the world. But although it may have survived for more than 10,000 years, its modernity residents have simple concerns for their future. Once a prosperous resort town, first favored by tourists from the Arab world before the 1967 Middle East war and later by Israelis and the Ashdod, or Palestinian, apogee, that began in 1987, Jaffa's economy is now in shambles. And after 28 years of Israeli occupation, many Israelis are tired of that pastime—Jaffa-by-day beach life. "We won't believe it until we see it," said Palestinian Hisham Fawzi, as he played cards in his gift shop. "We've been here over 20 years, there's

almost 30 years now, but nothing has changed.²

For the time being, there is only confusion: "None of us can tell what the future will bring and we get all the details," says Khatat, a portly headmaster who has been Jerusalem's major tutor since 1981. His father had the job before him. "We need to know how we shall be able to travel from one West Bank town to another," he added. "Jericho has business, Ramat and Hebron links with Jerusalem, with Hebron and Bethlehem, with Nablus and Ramallah."

What also worries the mayor is a proposed plan for the Palestinians to control internal security within Jericho's 19 square miles. The Palestinians have no police force and, since the intifada began to look considerable has served under the benches. "I don't believe the Palestinians can handle it on their own," admitted Khalil. To ensure safety, he wants the help of the Jordanians, who ruled the West Bank from 1948 until 1967. "We have Jewish settlements mass surrounding our city. We need security, for both sides."

The major fear is that once the Israeli army pulls out, members of the militant Muslim fundamentalist Hamas movement,



Perkins, a scientist that ascorbic—and ascorbate—may finally be crowned the cancer

who oppose all compromise with Israel, will try to undermine the new regime. He estimates that Hamas commands the support of 30 to 35 per cent of Jenin's population—and he may be right. In a coffee house at the city's main square, a group of teenagers

In jeans, T-shirts and white sneakers predict ed more trouble ahead. After the Israeli have gone, they agreed, the intifada will continue against the local leadership. "We don't trust them to run the city," said one. "They're a lot of crooks."

Outside the square, many of Jericho's older residents were visibly angry. A taxi driver adamantly refused to talk to a visitor about politics, perhaps the first sign in the history of his trade to do so. And while other townspeople said that they were honored that the city had been selected as the first West Bank community to run its own affairs, they hoped that it would not be the last. "All our cities have the same soul, the same blood, the same flesh," said Ue Hamed, a plump woman in a long embroidered dress and gleaming hand scarf. "Peace must include them all."

On 11/15 to the west, through the snow-covered canyons of the desert on the road to Jerusalem, the 1,800 Jews living at the Khirbat Beitza settlement had come to meet the new Russian and Hays Groszner moved there four years ago from New York City, where Russian was a suburban middle class and on a clear day the Grosznors can see Jericho spread out below their porch. "Living next door to a Palestinian enclave is going to be like living on the border of Lebanon," said Groszner, who fears the Jericho will become a safe haven for terrorists. "Even if the enclave is permitted to go on, its hands will be tied by a Palestinian police force, which is not going to hand over fellow Jews to the Israelis," he said. Added Hays, with a sigh: "It's not what I'd like Israel to have."

ERIC SEATER, *in* *Journal*

“OH...I DIDN'TKNOW THAT...”

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TERMINAL CASE

PRIVATIZING CANADA'S BIGGEST AIRPORT PROVOKES MANY QUESTIONS

CAMPAIGN NO
BOMBING THE
ISSUES

The news on Aug. 30 that Ottawa had concluded a "preliminary agreement" to privatize two terminals at Toronto's Lester B. Pearson International Airport means many things to many people. For the government, it was a key step in realising its 1982 policy to divest all control of Canada's airports. It was also an opportunity for the Conservative party to raise the value of more than 3,000 new jobs as the key promise of Ontario prior to a federal election. For the Pearson Development Corp. (PDC), a private consortium that includes Conservative party stalwart Donald Matthews, the deal to upgrade the airport's Terminal 1 and Toronto 3 facilities represented the fruition of two years of work as a winning bid—and a lucrative monopoly over Canada's largest airport. For the airlines that use Pearson, the agreement reassured concerns about escalating costs in an era of cut-throat competition. But for Chem-Hill, general manager of Pearson, the announcement was downright depressing. "We're missing around now trying to fix the value of the features that are part of this deal," and filed "That's about 10,000 units, airlines, petrol plants and companies to come."

The upheaval at Pearson airport, however, is just beginning. As soon as the lease is signed in November, PDC will start the first phase of a \$700-million, 10-year renovation and construction program. Although Transport Canada and Air Canada spent \$185 million to improve Terminal 1 in 1985, PDC plans to spend another \$350 million by 1995 to further expand the facility. In the final step of the proposal, in 1999, PDC plans to demolish Terminal 1 and rebuild it. The consortium forecasts that, despite the global slump in air travel, passenger traffic will grow by an average annual rate of three per cent over that period, ensuring that the new capacity at Pearson is required. But not everyone agrees that the work is necessary at this point. Still Liberal party transport critic John Manley: "Those are the kind of projections that got the airline industry into trouble in the first place."

In fact, at a time when airports and air lines are forced to do everything for less, says Pearson's general manager, the news has raised a



Travelers paying user fees of Vancouver airport: new costs to fliers, airlines

host of questions. For one thing, while many airports in the United States are owned and managed by local authorities as a not-for-profit basis, private commercial ownership could dramatically increase the costs charged both to airlines and to passengers at Pearson. That, in turn, could diminish the competitiveness of the airport and the business it generates in the local economy. Under the terms of the deal with PDC, the group

has the right to charge user fees with the approval of Transport Canada.

Yet another concern is that Pearson will not fall under the auspices of a local airport authority, so are the fear other airports in Canada where control was relinquished by Ottawa. According to Pearson MP, a spokesman for federal Transport Minister Jean Corbin, there are "still hurdles to overcome and criteria to meet" before such a

group is formed in Toronto. Still, Minister Ota Jellinek said that he has accepted the presidency of Matthews Asia, a part of the Matthews Group.

The contract to privatize the two terminals is considered a pilot, because Pearson is one of the few airports that has consciously made money for the federal government. As the bulk of Canada's air transport system, some 20 million passengers used Pearson in 1992, compared with 9.5 million at Montreal. Furthermore, Pearson's revenues have traditionally been used to subsidize other Canadian airports.

For his part, Pearson's chief executive officer, Jack Matthews, David's chief accountant, says that it "would be a fool to say there's no political agenda attached to the thing of the kind." But, he added, the pre-election push to privatize the airport stems principally from its potential for job creation. He also noted that there is a "strong political bias on debt reduction." One of Ottawa's key considerations in transferring responsibility for airports is the desire to direct that of the benefits of capital-intensive maintenance and recent upgrades.

When it comes to adhering with the Conservative party, however, Jack Matthews assumed that he is not really aware of such low "top level." In particular, he noted that Pearson had successfully bid on the contract to construct Terminal 3 in 1988, and that the bid review process this time was similarly lengthy, thorough and competitive.

Under the terms of the agreement, PDC holds a 10-year lease on the two terminals with an option to renew for an additional 20 years. The federal government is paid an annual fee based on a percentage of gross revenues at a fixed maximum amount—whichever is higher. Ottawa now receives revenue of \$23.6 million a year from the two terminals. In the first year of the lease, it will be paid \$26 million, and will reach \$32 million in year one of the first seven years of the lease to ensure that contribution stays immediately Transport Canada will continue, as it has at all other airports, to own security and air traffic control functions.

At the same time, Ottawa has imposed preconditions for the 140-million construction of these new runways at Pearson. The Matthews Group and its Pearson partner Air Industries Ltd. are among the groups bidding for that contract, which must be submitted by November. With so many new airports around them, says, they could be competitors. "We're concerned about the co-ordination of efforts among various departments and bodies," he said. Gordon Smith, president of the Ottawa-based Air Transport Association of Canada added, "The invitation because you can't afford to have one of the many substandard link up as there is chaos and disruption." For the current, the new owners of Canada's largest airport, the early working system is already on short.

DEBORAH MCGRATH

BIG DINED INCREASE

The Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission denied Bell Canada permission to raise basic local telephone rates by an average 40 per cent, or \$1.85 a month per household, in Ontario and Quebec. Commis- sioner Doreen Hill, Spier said that the agency acted "to ensure that Canadian telephone subscribers are not asked to pay unjustified increases."

TARGET CHRYSLER

Canadian Auto Workers Union, president Paul Thompson announced that the union has picked Chrysler Canada Ltd. as its strike target in its current round of negotiations with the Big Three automakers. Contracts for 36,000 unorganized Canadian employees at Chrysler, Ford and General Motors expire on Sept. 14. Thompson said that the union has the best chance of making gains at Chrysler because it is the most successful of the three.

FRANCHISE

Canada's largest working machine company, led by Vancouver millionaire Edgar Kaiser, plunged by \$5.25 (U.S.) to close the week at \$12.25 on the New York City-based NASDAQ exchange following a critical article in the U.S. weekly investment newspaper *Newsweek's* *Harvard* and its shares from the Vancouver Stock Exchange. *Harvard* share prices soared in August based on new sales projections by management. But the newspaper said that lines sampled from a prototype machine contained a "glitch" due.

NORTH WINDS THE AXE

Northern Telecom Ltd. announced from its headquarters in Mississauga, Ont., that it will close two of its 19 Canadian plants in telephone factory in London, Ont., and a computer plant in Annapolis, N.S., eliminating 75 jobs. Earlier, the company had announced that it would eliminate 5,200 jobs worldwide after it passed a \$1.5-billion stock-offering loss.

REAL ESTATE WORS

The Royal Bank of Canada increased its real estate loan loss expectations for the year by \$430 million to \$1.35 billion. The bank said that most of the troubled loans involve properties in the Toronto area. The bank's profits for the first nine months of its fiscal year rose by 20 per cent to \$725 million.



Change, not promises, will count this time

BY PETER C. NEWMAN

Elections are peculiar phenomena. They throw the political landscape of a nation at a given moment in time, its results likely accurately reflecting a portrait of the realists, tensions and, above all, unrefined aspirations of a people in transition.

Seldom, if ever before, has an election been called at a time Canadians felt themselves—individually and collectively—in the ongoing such a profound transformation. The world is changing as we walk in it. Nearly all of the safe neighborhoods that kept our left alive in our youth have been laid to waste. The big five charter banks, once run by capable leaders whom we treated in our fiscal affairs, have turned out to be sophisticated charadeurs who first acted as marginal characters like the Rockwells, but then, without even placing in their last

ago votes. Our parents—at least some of them—saw the growth of our sons, turn out to have been much more interested in all their boy's bodies. Many of our politicians are so bereft of moral authority that even if they admit they've led nobody believes them.

That's Canada in this latest summer of our discontent—a blessed bad still, but causing a bit of the edge.

The border now runs with the party leaders to reach into the tangled corners of the nation's psyche and recognize that the interest and, later, the allegiance of the voters. They cannot do this in the old-fashioned way of trumpeting lists of remarkable promises. The first law of politics is the art of making the necessary possible. But the treasury capricious are here. Any politician who promises anything that has a significant price tag is touched to it in a long. We can't afford to maintain the social system we have, much less repair it. This country isn't just financially bankrupt, it's broken, bankrupt, insolvent.

What we need at this perilous moment is a political class shrewd enough to understand that the old politics is dead. That

Canada is a blessed land still in this Indian summer of our discontent, but is coming apart at the edges

means no more windy rhetoric on "sincere" calls for "unwavering dedication" to whatever course comes up on the campaign platform.

Only those politicians who reject their campaign with a heavy dose of reality, trust, bare-bones honesty, compassion and hard-truth will keep their promises from being thrown at them. This is not going to be one of those traditional election campaigns, which by their very nature tend to become nothing more than a series of attacks of bitter electioneering with their own money. The voters raised in the expectation that their lives will inevitably improve and that the state will look after their basic needs—in a more efficient way than the Canadian post-war governments—now are making the gray truth don't say how any more.

As the two main candidates—Jim Campbell and Jean Chrétien—have all spent one another, however well liked and capable and the tag of the past will compete with the pull of the future. The two leaders represent almost perfectly the old and the new Canada. The Liberal leader has been a member of

Parliament since 1963 and his facility born is as predictable as it is boring. "I was born, Charlie," he began reporting, "five days it all" (What Chrétien actually says in a study version of the above "I've served Canada well for 30 years. It's a blessing that you've spent your life serving the Canadian people, that's a very long service.")

Doubt it is a "very long service," because most informed Canadians could possibly think of any more self-congratulatory by a politician than to admit that he or she is responsible for what's happened to this country in the past three decades. But Campbell may not be a miracle worker—or even a great leader—but at least she's relatively fresh, and still has an uncorrupted self-life.

The 1993 election to be called this week will be fought on two intertwined levels. The prime issue will be trying to get the economy moving again so that the 10 million jobless Canadians can start to hope and plot their lives again. The prime clash will be between which of the main leaders can project her or himself as an agent of change. Only 364 days before election day—on October 26, 1993—Canadian voters against the Chrétien/Clark record, and what that was about had to do to do only constitutional matters. Instead, it was a bold and unambiguous declaration that most Canadians were opting out of the status quo and would no longer elect their leaders in their class or follow their policies.

It's that reckless mood Campbell has to harness. Her successful summer theatre debut was just that: a way of showing off her humanity, trying to prove to voters at large that she is a woman—a caring and interesting woman not afraid to say what she feels, instead of what some cheerleader with sweet, big pulchra wants her to mouth.

At the moment, a Tory majority is not in the cards. Because Lucien Bouchard's Bloc Québécois is still leading the polls in Quebec and the Liberals will benefit from the weakness of New parties in Ontario, Campbell will have a tough time tapping the magic 50 seats required for a majority. That could mean the election of a minority government, with the Greens joining the NDP camp or the Tories teaming up with the handful of Reformers expected to vote in Alberta and British Columbia.

Canada has elected its minority administration in the postwar years (1957 and 1962 under John Diefenderfer, 1983 and 1986 under Lester Pearson, 1972 under Pierre Trudeau and 1979 under Joe Clark). While they make great political orators, minorities can be very ineffectual. (To win back his majority in 1974, Trudeau pruned federal spending up by an unprecedented 25 per cent.) There wouldn't be room for that kind of outsize in today's drug-light monetary climate but the fear of how the lack of a clear majority would drive politicians to overreact could lead the Canadian federal government.

Every election is important. But this time, the stakes have never been greater.

PEOPLE



Amateur: 'The best thing to ever happen'

Return of the Champ

"My reason for going to Hong Kong was to win a million dollars," says newsmen Henry Champ. "I'd always wondered if I could play in when I thought was the big leagues." (Champ left his car-lift job at the city current affairs show WS in 1982 and spent 10 years with me as a correspondent in Frankfurt, London and Washington.) But the "big leagues" are not what they used to be. "News coverage softened, and it just wasn't so much fun," said Champ, 34. Now, the Brandon, Man., native is returning to Canadian broadcasting at the heat of the CBC Morning News, which has been logging behind on Canada as in the ratings. His plan for turning the Huffington Post news show around? "He'll be in as troubled by what happens [and other] things," replied Champ. "I want to be happy if the ratings go up, if they go down, you're going to get fixed anyway."



Champ 'you'

Stealing victory

For Nick Price of Zimbabwe and Australian Greg Norman, winners at the Canadian Open golf championship (in 1990 and 1992, respectively) propelled their careers to new heights. The pair have been at the top of the golf world ever since. But for American Paul Azinger, being his is even harder. He finished five back in the pack—tied for 15th—at last year's Open, but it was not that loss that motivated him. It was the loss of a club. "Someone stole my towel out of the locker room," said Azinger. "Since that Canadian lock, the man known as 'Zinger' has gone on to win four tournaments, including one major—all without his towel." By last week, he had accumulated more than \$2.5 million in earnings for the year, and is one of the hottest players due to compete in this week's Canadian Open. "I may have been the best thing to ever happen to me," said Azinger, 33. "I have gone on seven, three and three weeks over once, and I have played great."

A different kind of sultry

She sings soulful songs about love and the South—but that was not her idea. When Wilhelmina Williams of Burlington, Ont., went to New York City to cut her first album, the producers said that she wanted her to record only love songs. At first, the idea did not have much appeal. "But then," said Williams, 24, "I realized there are all different kinds of love songs." The Toronto native is working her album *My Thoughts*, made the Top 10 under this year, and her single *Look Me in the Eye* is now climbing the charts. Williams knows how to play an audience at the 20th anniversary show for *South Stars* last week at Toronto's roller up a brilliantly lit stage, it will demand, crowd with her powerful voice and sultry sensuality. Part of her stage confidence comes from the experience—and exposure—of winning the *Miss Black Canada* pageant in 1990. "After doing that," she said, "I guess I don't get as shy as I used to."



A teaser teased

Pierre Trudeau is a past master of the grand appearance. Last week at the Montreal Film Festival, he attended the screening of *Memories*, a three-part documentary series on the former prime minister's life and times, sporting a full beard that failed to disguise him from celebrity watchers. During the screening, he was

harassed by Pierre Bessard, an actor who plays an obnoxious reporter for the *Le Monde*-Canada series *Tuques* in *Platoon* (Touche the Platoon). Afterwards, apparently fed up with Bessard's ruckus, the 70-year-old Trudeau pulled off the comedian's fake beard and slapped him on the face. Then, said Bessard, "he gave me a little known kick in the family jewels" (Trudeau's wife says that



Trudeau: 'I was teased'

his fist did not connect.) As for the documentary, he came to see. Trudeau was characteristically so in his announcement. "I'm teased," he joked after the screening of the first—and recent—episode of *Memories*, which was produced with his full co-operation. In any event, Trudeau will soon be telling his story in his own words. His memories, in book form, are due for release in the fall.

A DIRECTOR'S OBSESSION

Toronto's David Cronenberg
is a paradox: mild-mannered
Canadian pursuing sexual
mutation



BY BRIAN D. JOHNSON

Last year, when David Cronenberg saw *The Crying Game*, he watched with professional interest. He already knew what to look for: "Score girls," says the Canadian director, had already tipped him all to the movie's celebrated secret, spoiling the surprise scene where the lovely date steps off her clothes and presents graphic evidence that she is a he. At the time, Cronenberg was working on his own gender-bending movie, *M. Butterfly*, which opens the Festival of Festivals this week in Toronto. It is based on David Henry Hwang's 1988 Broadway play inspired by a strange but true story—a

French diplomat conducts a two-decade romance with a Chinese opera singer before realizing that his lover is a man. Unlike *The Crying Game*, *M. Butterfly* hits its nuclear in the secret from the start. It is a very different kind of queer. But, as Cronenberg told *MovieLine* in a recent interview, *The Crying Game* made him jealous—not the movie itself, which left him unimpressed, but the transvestite "She has no Adam's apple."

Cronenberg's actor John Lone, who plays the misadventured diplomat, *M. Butterfly* does have an Adam's apple. And proved to be a pain in the neck. "It was agony shooting with him," recalls Cronenberg. "Because we had to be so careful about the light: the hair, the throat." As it turns out, Lone's female impersonation is more than convincing: It is a shrewd, sensitive

portrait of duplicity. Jeremy Irons, meanwhile, anchors himself to the diplomat with another beam, brilliant, stoic, and joyful manner—a fit path to his scheduled portrayal of two gynologists in Cronenberg's *Dead Ringers* (1998). And for its November director, *M. Butterfly* marks another triumph in the time-honored profession of a scientific career: a film that refines his obsession with sexual mutation and takes it to a new level.

Of the two films, Canadian directors are selling new winners at the recent Montreal World Film Festival (Sept. 8 to Sept. 16), Cronenberg is the most accomplished. He is operating on a larger scale than the rest, having made *M. Butterfly* with a Hollywood budget of \$50 million (that he means state-

ical Play-Doh is a far more for inventing creatures: the writer's paradise for Cronenberg is the body in *Silence*, the insect flesh that grows like a cancer out of Jeff Goldblum in *The Fly*; the organic typewriter that secrete agonizing pains in *Naked Lunch*; even the entire forest of *Dead Ringers*, the director could not resist tossing it in with gross-out disease reference it's scenes abhorring a monomaniacal focus.

With *M. Butterfly*, he finally seems to have made a movie without effects, without creatures. Cronenberg, however, disagrees. "John is the creature," he insists, referring to the meticulous changes created by Lone's drug act. Still, there are no creepy-crawly, nothing to offend the squeamish. *M. Butterfly* is the most palatable film of Cronenberg's career, even though the suggestion makes him wince. "Doubt, I hope not," he says. "I guess after you've made a bunch of movies, one of them has to be the most palatable."

M. Butterfly carries a departure for the director in other ways. Filmed in China, Budapest, Paris and Toronto, it is the first movie that he has shot on location outside Canada. And the sheer presence of land, architecture and costume lends the images an explicit that goes beyond any thing in his previous films. In fact, after Cronenberg sent a half-hour of footage to Hollywood to be cut into a trailer, he received a call from an astonished David Geffen, the billionaire mogul who financed *M. Butterfly*. "The trailer made it look like a David Lynch picture," says Cronenberg. "They said every-thing about there was 'They made it look like an epic. Geffen phoned and said, 'This is incredible. But is this stuff in the movie?' I said, 'Yeah, of course it is in the movie.'"

Cronenberg, who stands an imposing 6-foot-10 of his frame, enjoys a rare easiness in Hollywood. Marveling at the director's *subtle poise*, Lane recalls that "Geffen and Warner Bros. [the distributor] left us completely alone. In fact, I've never done films where there was no executive involved." The actor, who has studied for some legendary Sitewalkers, including Bernardo Bertolucci, to M. Butterfly's director, Cronenberg is the strongest director I've worked with. He's truly secure and fearless."

It is, too, his high praise for him. "I'm interested in exploring the risk of behavior," he said in a phone interview last week from Barcelona, where he is shooting a new film, "The spin—and David puts a good spin on anything he does. He surprises me." Adds Lone, "One of the things about working with David is he makes it a very happy experience. He is confident enough in what he's doing to come out already open-minded to any particular scene and allow it to germinate, and be created by the people involved as we're doing it. That is a huge luxury."

That serenity on the set seems palpa-

ble in the first instant. Despite his movie is action shots, *M. Butterfly* unfolds in intimate drama. And when Cronenberg edits he cuts to the bone, lending an elegant quality to the narrative. His images, like photographs in a developing tray, keep coming into focus long after the final credits have rolled.

Wearing khaki shorts and a black polo shirt, Cronenberg sits in his Toronto office, a Sparta space above a storefront. Generic white fluorescent. White walls, bare but for a poster of *Naked Lunch*. Nothing to give him away. The director adjusts in his comfortable tan leather. He says he does not want his career to encroach on his family—an 11-year marriage to Carolyn (his second wife), a house-mother, or his children, aged 12, 12 and 11.

As he lists the ages, he flinches. "Even just telling you that makes me uncomfortable," he says. "I cannot remember about it, it's just privacy. If you came into my house, you would have to describe it. That's the whole point. And I wouldn't want you to. We both know the process. Whatever happens during the interview, whatever you will, you will sit in the car, it would have significance in the article. When it could be it would just be another machine."

For the record, he has two houses, one in Toronto and one an hour's drive away in the country. He has a passion for cars. He owns a black Audi sedan and a red Ferrari, but also collects vintage racing cars. Once he spun a Ferrari into a concrete wall, but escaped unharmed. His hobby is swimming that. "You could certainly do without," he says. But it goes back a long way. "My mother and I used to have a red bicycle that I was never off."

Those who have seen Cronenberg's films



M. Butterfly... a tale of strange love

Special Report

are sometimes surprised to meet him. They expect a secrets with a tortured past. In fact, he is charming and articulate, and insists that he had a "very wonderful childhood"—great teachers and loving parents (one both deceased). His father, Milano, was the Toronto Tribune's story columnist for 30 years. His mother, Esther, was a pianist who accompanied choros and dancers. Cronenberg, who began writing "tearful short stories" in high school, says that his interest in the macabre came naturally: "I can't imagine how anyone can't have it, once you realize what the rules of life are."

A top student, Cronenberg was torn between science and literature. After a year of studying both, he settled on literature, graduating from the University of Toronto with a B.A. in 1967. In university, he tried being a novelist, but fell over-shouldered by his role models, William S. Burroughs and Vladimir Nabokov. Then he discovered film-making, in which he felt free to invent his own vocabulary. After making several experimental films, Cronenberg took a risk followed by the early 1970s by writing and directing low-budget horror movies, including *Shivers*, *Rabid*, *The Brood*, and *Scanners*. In 1983, Robert Fulford lauded *Shivers* as a "sensational story in Saturday Night magazine called 'Halo should

know how to tell his film as you just do it.' The \$180,000 movie, submitted by public funds, more than paid back its investors with earnings of \$5 million. It took a little longer for its director to earn some respect.

With the release of *The Fly* in 1986, Cronenberg's unique brand of biological horror entered the mainstream. The movie



Left: in *Shivers*, Cronenberg's biggest hit—\$180 million

made more than \$600 million and remains his biggest hit. Straying from the horror genre, he won resounding acclaim for *Dead Ringers* (1988), featuring a double-face performance by Irons as drug-addicted twin gynecologists who both commit suicide. Critics also noted about *Naked Lunch* (1991), his written adaptation of the Burroughs

novel, that the movie died at the box office. Although Cronenberg has had only one big commercial hit, he is in demand. He has turned down offers to direct a number of movies that became blockbusters, including *Top Gun*, *Beverly Hills Cop*, *Manhattan*, and, more recently, *The Firm*. "I get lots of scripts from mainstream Hollywood," says Cronenberg, "and I'm flattered. But they're just not the films I want to do. I drive my agents crazy because I turn down everything. But I'm not in financial difficulty. I love the money because of the freedom it represents, but I'm not greedy."

Cronenberg also passed on an offer to direct *Armageddon* with the Hammer, the long-awaited adaptation of the *House* like best-seller. Instead, Neil Jordan, who made *The Crying Game*, will direct *Armageddon* with Tom Cruise as his star. Cronenberg had found the book unappealing: "I'd been told it was a modern retelling of *King Lear*," he says. "But when I started to read it, it didn't find it very modern. I found it very poetic and very old-fashioned and very hard."

The story of *M. Butterfly*, however, immediately intrigued him. Hwang's play is loosely based on the witness-drama *China Signs* of French diplomat Bernard Baudouin, imprisoned on an espionage book titled *Loans*, by Joyce Kilmer. "It's one of those little stories like *Dead Ringers*," says Cronenberg. "Hwa's

Two gynecologists found dead? What? Chinese opera says they have French flags and turn out to be a man and a woman."

The director saw the play and found it "very cartoon-like, too didactic and too obvious—attitudes fighting each other." That Hwang, who co-wrote the screenplay with Cronenberg, was unamused to changes. Hwang's original theme, says the director, "is that we see the East as female and submissive and passive, which makes us feel strong and dominant. And I'm strong if it's more complex. That's why I hate politics—because people died off the solutions to make a point." Adds Cronenberg: "The play is more overtly political than the movie. And it's conceivable someone might accuse me of exploiting it."

M. Butterfly is the first Cronenberg film that is, above all, a love story. But Cronenberg stresses that it is both a romance and "a subversion of romance love—you have the emotion, but you also have the tools to examine it, to dig under it and around it and through it." The relationship between Irene (Irene) and Song (Lance) is built on layers of unspoken complexity. "I'm not sure the deception of one person by another," explains Cronenberg. "But the deception of two people by themselves."

On some level, *M. Butterfly* is a story of repressed homosexual passion, like *Dead Ringers*. But in both films, Cronenberg sees

action on transcending gender. It's not a matter of sex or straight. It's sex. "Sexuality, for humans, is an invading. One of the lines in the play and in the movie that I love is, 'Only a man knows how a woman is supposed to act.' What does that mean? It's not just that men impose their idea of female sexuality on women. There's a strange collaboration to



Right: Lance (Irene) and Irene (Lance) in *M. Butterfly*

create a male image and a female image that somehow, and it's constantly being adjusted. Why? Because there's no absolute sexuality anymore."

Before casting Lane, Cronenberg auditioned transsexuals and transvestites and had trouble finding the right balance. He needed an actor who could pass for a woman

but later in the story play a decidedly masculine man. "It was two tricks I had in mind, not one," says the director. In *The Crying Game*, he adds, aside from the shot of the transvestite's genitalia, "which is a woman all the way through the movie—why is that? I suppose, it was such a good-looking film for a moment of middle-class North Americans who would have normally been put off by a homosexual love story."

Cronenberg has made a career out of threatening the values of middle-class North America. Yet, in his own way, he has become a kind of Canadian institution. He has achieved a strange sort of respectability. He is a director who has dealt with the Hollywood devil without selling his soul. And his body of work seems to have a kind of biological integrity, even the props from his movies, including the *Magnum* cameras from *Naked Lunch* and the surgical instruments from *Dead Ringers*, have been embraced in a traveling international exhibition opening this week at the Royal Ontario Museum.

Will respect limit Cronenberg's edge? He claims not. "I guess I'm the kind of person who always feels he's on the verge of being arrested," he says. "I think I'm constantly flirting with danger in what I do." And, for a director who has driven a racing car into a concrete wall, there is still nothing quite as dangerous as a strange idea. (E)

SEXUAL EXTREMES

The new homegrown movies seem to have sex on the brain



BY BRIAN D. JOHNSON

Perhaps it is something in the water: Urethramani songs in the air, something strange is happening to Canadian movies. Each year at the end of the summer, film festivals in Montreal and Toronto usually unveil new works by Canadian directors. Until now, certain traditions were observed: There would be bitter-sweet coming-of-age stories like *My American Cousin*, autobiographical reminders like *My Life After* and grim history

epics like *Delaware* and *Black Robe*. And under the bedrock of realism and angst, there would be a craggy comic horror, like *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*.

Now, it seems to be out on the open. All at a sudden, Canadian cinema has sex on the brain. There is more of it in this season's crop than in the past 10 years combined. Sex of all descriptions—straight sex, gay sex and scripted sex. Intoxications, pathological and political sex. Intellectual sex—and needless, lust-driven sex for the sheer unadorned hell of it.

Both can Montreal and Toronto film festivals chose to launch their programs with movies about gender-bending. The Montreal World Film Festival (Aug. 26 to Sept. 6) opened with *Je ne suis pas un homme*, a drama about a 13-year-old girl grappling with the fact that her father has become a transsexual. Toronto's Festival of Festivals (Sept. 5 to 18) opens this week with Cronenberg's *M. Butterfly*, a romantic tragedy about a man in love with a woman who is really a man.

As usual, the Toronto festival has attracted the best's share of new movies by Canadian directors. And among the 26 dramatic features, many are stories of characters peeling back the frontiers of sex—and sanity. They range from the hard-edged *Love and Human Remains*, a tale of desperate drug sex against a backdrop of serial murder; to *I Love a Man in Uniform*, about an actor who makes a sadomasochistic fetish of the police costume. From the provocative Zero Pictorial



I Love a Man in Uniform: Love and Human Remains (topright): clashing masculinity

a surreal musical about AIDS, to the exceptionally graphic *Raw*, *Primo*, a tangled Lust Temple of erotic chaos.

Canon Bailey, program coordinator for the Toronto Institute of Progressive Cinema series, says that this year "sex has been taken to an extreme. That I haven't seen it in Canadian movies." No one knows exactly why. But Bailey has a theory: "Maybe

Canadian filmmakers have finally figured out that they can't afford big car chases, elaborate sets and big stars," he says. "What one can afford to do on screen that's cheap? Well... sex. It's not exploitative any more. They're interested in exploring ideas and characters. And if they can do it cheaply, it makes perfect sense. It's amazing that we haven't thought of this before."

The new inclination with sex may also be part of a drift away from the country's documentary tradition—and an alignment with the extreme cinema of Cronenberg. For a long time, he was a voice in the wilderness. His cyborgopics, directors like Don Strickland (*Glass*, *Queen Bees*) and Don Owen (*Nobody Knows Goodbye*), pioneered Canadian cinema in the late 1960s with baroque cinema of lost innocence, movies that reflected the National Film Board's (NFB) documentary legacy. "Cronenberg's education is always looking below the surface," says Peter Handberg, deputy director at the Festival of Festivals, "and the surface was associated with documentary film." But as the NFB's influence wanes, the new generation is seeking inspiration elsewhere, Handberg suggests. "At this point in time, Cronenberg seems to be the central figure, the guru."

Quebec, of course, is a special case. And its vibrant cinema has always had a healthy libido. In 1986, Quebec director Dany Arsenault scored a hit with *The Doctrine of the American Dream*, a smart, risqué comedy about a dinner party devoted to sexual confessions. Now, with *Love and Human Remains*, he has made his first English-language move, with a script that Edmonton playwright Brad Fraser adapted from his own hit play *Unidentified Human Remains and the True Nature of Love*.

It is a darkly comic drama focused on two friends who share an apartment: David, a gay actor-turned-writer with a cynical wit, and Cindy, a book reviewer who consistently finds fault with the books she reads—not the men she dates. "I need someone who will have arousal for my orgasm," she tells David, who advises her to "stop dating straight men." A parade of characters drifts in and out of their lives: a lesbian fixated on Cindy; a bisexuals' bomber; a psychotic dominatrix and a prison-guard-turned-serial killer in the shadows, a serial killer stalks the streets.

Unlike Arsenault's *Doctrine*, a raucous satire about a weekend in the country, *Love and Human Remains* presents its ensemble of discordant lives in a subtle elegy in which everyone is stranger. The sex scenes are deliberately cold and unadorned. David grumbles with AIDS in a gay club, a scene like a leather boot in a surreal nightmare. "This film is not about eroticism at all," Arsenault told *Mirror*'s over *Love and Human Remains*. "People like to bed together and they don't really know why. They do it because there's a physical urge, they fight at the very moment."

What attracted him to Fraser's play, says

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Arred, with its cyclones, its wh— and a sense of surreal violence that he considers a hallmark of English-Canadian art. "English-Canadians have this view of themselves as very stud," he says. "But is there you have Brad Fraser and Judith Thompson. In film, Cronenberg and Lapierre. These people are weird. Look at [Wes] Craven—on the surface, hypercaloric painting, but you can't find much to praise, much disconcerting violence."

Arred was cast in *It's a Wonderful Life* and *Blues Brothers* in Edmonton. But after an Alberta freeway died toll through, he had to resign himself to working as a janitor in Montreal. The director has portrayed his home town as never before, as a cold, unapologetic city without a hint of a heartiness or a French accent—a concrete hell of expressways, culverts, tunnels and parking garages, a wasteland with borders situated on freeway ramps. "Life is dangerous as hell in these cities," says Arred. "Love is dangerous. You can get AIDS. You can get streptococci. You can get better so it's a bad spot."

In *It's a Wonderful Life*, writer-director David McKeown films his own city, Toronto, with the same hand of chilling irony. While Arred straps MacRed down to bare subterranean conduits, McKeown's camera finds sinister shadows of steel and glass, reducing Toronto to a reflection of consciousness. "The flip side," says the director, "is that between all these cities, all artificial buildings, there is always an alley."

Arred, a hot item at the Cannes Film Festival last May, is a teenage psychological thriller. Tom McCann delivers a quietly riveting performance as Henry, a bank clerk who has aspirations to be an actor. He gets a night job playing a cop on a cheap TV crime series—then starts to wear his uniform, his weapon, on the street. His method-acting cocaine gradually gets out of hand. He takes his revolver to bed. Arred with the same promise that Cronenberg might have turned the movie into a vigilante shoot-out. But Cronenberg's subterranean violence was too casual, surreal. And because it all was so surreal, it was so convincing.

McKeown says that the idea for the film came from an accident: that he witnessed one night in a Montreal alley. "It was a cop being served by a prostitute at the corner," he recalls. "It really gave me the creeps." In the movie, Henry catches a look at his revolver.

When he puts on the uniform, it is like dressing in drag. He wears a shiny leather jacket, like American cops. Toronto police uniforms were not very scary, says Wellington. "Further reflects the light and kind of totem like metal. It represents a fascist ideal."

Strangely enough, a movie about AIDS sounds a more cheerful note. Movies and dis-



Photo: Ernest Bornemann and co-workers

acted by John Greyson. *Zero Patient* is the year's most adventurous film about sex. Until now, movies of TV dramas have tended to treat AIDS with a palliative dose of tragic sentiment, but Greyson's film breaks new ground. It is a combination of musical com-

edy, (choreo) cinematography, and sex, backstage, basically lambasting, ballroom dance, public shaming, crude disgusting and group sex. There is even the occasional song. Adopted by writer Tom Wootton from his own novel, *Point, Point* is a comic drama about an author named Lucy (Leslie Hope), who cherishes sex as a sensual and cerebral activity to release a nagging case of writer's block.

The story spins an Easter weekend. While Lucy has an affair with a sexually over-the-top poet (Peter Onorati), her publisher (Howard (Victor) Sutherland) dials into a psychosexual and life crisis. Overlaid and overlapped, the movie is like a ballroom between crime and fiction: between the noted and the verbose. By contrast, *Arred* does not portray

another movie without providing the details of Canadian cinema in Paris, France, but on an entirely different level. Directed by Toronto-based filmmaker Gerald Gosselin, it presents more graphic nudity and sex than has ever been seen in a Canadian movie outside the exploitation genre. The action adds up to a Canadian James Bond—a metropolitan of patri-

otic, (choreo) cinematography, and sex, backstage, basically lambasting, ballroom dance, public shaming, crude disgusting and group sex. There is even the occasional song. Adopted by writer Tom Wootton from his own novel, *Point, Point* is a comic drama about an author named Lucy (Leslie Hope), who cherishes sex as a sensual and cerebral activity to release a nagging case of writer's block. The story spins an Easter weekend. While Lucy has an affair with a sexually over-the-top poet (Peter Onorati), her publisher (Howard (Victor) Sutherland) dials into a psychosexual and life crisis. Overlaid and overlapped, the movie is like a ballroom between crime and fiction: between the noted and the verbose. By contrast, *Arred* does not portray

Continued on page 35

AN ADVERTISING AND INFORMATION SUPPLEMENT TO THE
SEPTEMBER 11 EDITION OF MACLEAN'S MAGAZINE

TELECOM 2000



Virtually everyday, headlines report on happenings in the telecommunications industry. Often, we read of innovative new technologies, like Apple Canada's recent announcement of its AV Technologies being telecommunication technologies to the desktop computer. Just as often, stories feature the results of the deregulation of Canadian telecommunications... the powerful new alliances or the power struggles between industry players. While it's impossible to cover the entire telecommunications arena, this report offers a sampling of the telecommunications innovations that will guide Canadian businesses and consumers into the next century.

Dialing for Dinner

ACQ-STAR™ DELIVERS FOR
PANZEROTTO & PIZZA!

Thanks to a "Call Centre" telecommunications solution from Bell Canada, Toronto-based Panzerotto & Pizz is getting a good slice of the consumer's growing hot food dollar.

However, just as Hopleys have changed in the 17 years since the company opened its first store, so have phones. Ordering and delivering pizza was not always so simple.

"For our first ten years, our stores took phone-in orders for their geographic areas

Separate phone numbers made operations very labor-intensive," explains Joseph Schiavone, director of marketing and a partner in the 30-store chain.

Ensuring company-wide standards was difficult as store staff were too busy dealing with phone orders to provide the sales information needed to run the business.

Independent phone numbers also presented a hassle for marketing efforts. By 1987, Panzerotto & Pizz needed a more efficient telecommunications solution. Schiavone realized that maintaining market share demanded a centrally managed phone number and a "Call Centre" with operators handling city-wide calls. "We first looked at the Automatic Call

Meet Katie

She's used 18 telephones,
3 voice mail systems, 9-1-1
services and 317 kilometers
of fibre optic cable.
And that was all before
she took her first breath.



Before Katie was even delivered, she became one of Northern

Telecom's best customers. It all started the moment Katie's mother

phoned her husband at work. That little act started a sequence of events almost

impossible for the mind to comprehend. Messages were sent through hundreds of

wires and left on voice mail systems. Data was transmitted over fibre

optic cables. Medical files were relayed to computers. And a banking

machine dispensed money to pay for a teddy bear. But it doesn't stop there. In the

years to come, Katie and other Canadians can continue to look to Northern

Telecom and its partners in the communications industry for ground-breaking

products and technology. And not just because we have a commit-

ment to our customers, but to the future of Canada as well.



Distribution (ACD) technology which major organizations use to distribute calls among large groups of telephone agents," recalls Schiavone.

Chief last year, ACD required a considerable investment in a private trunk line and a PBX, a switching system that runs a size's telephone system.

Schiavone recalls that this was not the ideal solution.

"We had no way of knowing which of the incoming call had been on hold longest and it was impossible to gauge how many calls we were losing or why. Managing staff and determining whether to add additional staff or phone lines was guesswork."

A year ago, Schiavone's vision of an efficient Call Centre became a reality. Bell introduced the ACD-Star, which combines the richly featured Norstar™ telephone system, with an ACD processor (a microcomputer) that manages the system, all operational on a standard business line and available on a lease basis. Pazzotto & Pizzo enhanced the concept and future Call Centre functionality by operating its ACD-Star on Bell Canada lines.

With the ACD-Star, Schiavone and his brother Frank, who manages the Call Centre operations, have transformed their phone system into an efficient operations and marketing tool.

First, the ACD-Star ensures that all calls are answered by an operator or by the recorded message after two rings. No calls are lost to busy signals or a delayed answer. The computer monitors each agent's line and directs each call, in sequence, to the next available agent. The computer automatically checks back to people on hold and plays a message that encourages them to wait.

With the Centrix system's Call Forward, Pazzotto & Pizzo can automatically redirect calls to an outside location.

With just a day's training by their Bell Canada representative, the Schiavone had mastered the system. The status displays, run on an easy to use Windows (TM) based software and the Norstar telephone guides them through a voice menu to set-up messages.

The ACD-Star means no more random ringing,

throughout the phone room — the workload is distributed among agents and phones only ring on the date of the next available agent.

With the Norstar phone set's built-in display, combined with Bell's Call Display feature, they use the incoming phone number which speeds up the order entry process. Another display allows operators to know which of Pazzotto & Pizzo's numbers the caller dialed. The ACD-Star's ease of use means that new agents require minimal training to become efficient team members.

With a menu that's efficient to meet the tastes of today's consumers and a telecom system that's primed to deliver efficiency and productivity, Pazzotto & Pizzo's ready for your call!

Public Cordless Telephone Service

MOBILITY FOR THE MASSES

It wasn't that long ago that the Dick Tracy wrist-watch telephone was part of the imaginary world of science fiction. At the time, telephones were black, bulky and anything but mobile.

That was then. Today, the telephone has become a sophisticated communications device with a myriad of features. One of the most significant developments in telephone technology, however, is about to occur — Public Cordless Telephone Service (PCTS).

In 1994, digital cordless telephone technology will usher in a new era of personal mobile communications, allowing the owner, for the first time, to use the same digital telephone at home, in the office and in public areas.

The federal government has issued licenses to four companies to provide Public Cordless Telephone Service: Telecel Corporation, Canada PayPhone Corporation, Mobility Personalized Cellular Ltd. and Rogers Canal Mobile Inc.

People will be able to place or receive calls at

home and at work with no cost for "air time," or at public locations using the same portable handset at minimal or no cost.

The telephones will be easy to use with simple service options. Since the handset can operate at a low power it will be relatively inexpensive, with air time charges as low as 25 per cent of cellular service costs.

The initial cost for the handset is expected to be the same as today's high-end analogue cordless telephones. Unlike their portable analogue predecessors, digital cordless phones will provide high quality transmission, greater range and better security from eavesdropping.

People will be more accessible with a cordless telephone, but they won't be slaves to incessant telephone calls. Users will be able to use their telephones with other communications devices. They will be able to pre-program the calls they receive, call forward incoming calls to other locations, or their pager or to a personal voice mail box.

Digital cordless telephones also offer a new way for family members to stay in touch. The small size and low cost of the handset will enable children to take a telephone with them whenever they go.

Another attractive feature of the technology is that subscribers will be able to make calls to cellular and traditional wire-line telephones at no

inconvenience or extra cost. Owners will be able to use their digital cordless handsets to make calls in any city that has PCTS, and receive calls from anywhere in the country or world.

Public cordless telephone service will link pocket-sized telephones to base stations connected to the public switched network. People will be able to place and receive calls within the zone covered by these base stations which will be located in shopping malls, suburbs, airports, streets, lecture facilities and other public areas.

A national public cordless network consists of thousands of base stations in selected locations throughout Canadian cities.

PCTS suppliers will offer a wide range of value-added services to meet varied customer needs. Telecel, for example, plans to offer a number of

special services such as paging and voice mail, customer service centres, hotlines, free exceptional time and custom billing.

The promise of PCTS is more mobility, convenience, productivity and safety to the average Canadian. People may not have their telephones on their wrists but, like Dick Tracy, they will be able to stay in touch at the home or office, on the street, in the subway or any other place in a city.

By Robert Kewen, President,
Telecel Corporation, Toronto

Toll Fraud

THE DARK SIDE OF TELECOM WILDCARD

Telecommunications technology is often portrayed as the modern world's answer. However, there is a dark side to the telecom story with a cast of characters who own sophisticated telecommunications systems for pleasure, profit and profits.

Much like their better-known counterparts computer hackers, phone phreaks have their hands in the cookie jar of major corporations and organizations. In North America, phreaks are stealing an estimated \$3 billion a year in long distance services!

In fact, chances are that several Canadian companies lost between \$10,000 and \$100,000 to toll fraud over the most recent holiday weekend. Holidays are a favourite time for phone phreaks as system administrators are away.

Gerry Steiner is the general manager of central region operations, for the national telephone interconnect company, Telecommunications Terminal Systems, a subsidiary of Northern Telecom. According to Steiner "The estimate of

victims adds to the misconception that phone phreaks are not as pervasive and dangerous as the numbers show. In fact, the lack of publicity keeps many businesses from implementing the safety barriers that could keep hackers out, or at least, minimize the damage."



"If you are responsible for a phone system, you should know what you can do to prevent toll fraud."

TeleCon '93 Showcase

EXPANDING THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY

The telecommunications industry in Canada is moving more quickly than most organizations can adapt. Fortunately, there is a five-day conference and trade exposition that features the latest in telecom products and services. TeleCon '93: Partnerships for Prosperity, taking place at Montreal, September 12-16, at the Palais des Congrès, will be your guide to the ever-changing Canadian telecom marketplace.

Organized by the Canadian

Business Telecommunications Alliance (CBTA), TeleCon '93 features over 170 national and international exhibitors. In addition to that, delegates will be able to choose from more than 50 seminars, covering the hottest topics and issues in telecom today.

For the first time, TeleCon will offer government attendees a special comprehensive two-day seminar series, enabling them to meet counterparts from across the country.

The CBTA is a non-profit

organization that has worked on behalf of business telecommunications customers for the past 25 years. A major voice in the Canadian telecom industry, the CBTA represents more than 340 organizations from all sectors of the Canadian economy.

For more information about TeleCon '93: Partnerships for Prosperity, contact the CBTA, 15 Toronto Street, Suite 202, Toronto, Ontario M5C 2E3. Telephone (416) 865-9993 or Facsimile (416) 865-0859.

If you're responsible for a phone system, you should know what you can do to prevent toll fraud. The first step is to recognize the various subtypes of phone phreaks and their modus operandi.

Shoulder Surfers spend their time in public areas that have lots of pay phones. Airports are excellent locations for observing calling card numbers or DSSA phone number and access codes.

DSSA or Direct Inward System Access is a feature that's available on the internal phone systems or PBX (private branch exchange) of businesses. It's designed to save long-distance charges and provide a link to an outside line for mobile or home-based workers.

Shoulder Surfers with stolen DSSA phone numbers and codes dial into a company's PBX system and are passed through to a DSSA port to an outside line where they can run up thousands of dollars in long-distance calls.

The Social Engineers are a more notorious species who pose as fellow corporate employees and ask employees for access codes to help solve a non-existent PBX system problem. Or they'll pretend to be a travelling employee and ask a company switchboard operator to pass them through to an outside line.

Instead of "chatting up" unsuspected employees, the Dumpster Diver digs deep into dumpsters for administrative reports that list codes, calling card numbers and other valuable data.

The most sophisticated of the phone phreaks are the closet lon to the computer hackers. Their technique is to use a computer modem to dial up

telephone numbers until they reach a number that appears like a DSSA number.

Voice mail systems provide another entry for toll thieves and pen testers. Some systems are set up so that an employee can call in for their messages and dial out to make a long distance call.

Don't think that a voice mail system that doesn't allow out-dialing protects you. Theft is not the only nefarious telecom activity. Organized criminals set up their own mailboxes on corporate voice mail systems.

While the threat of toll fraud is real, protecting your assets and your image doesn't have to be difficult, asserts Steiner, whose organization has installed more than 1,500 PBXs and 270 voice mail systems.

"For many companies, the greatest difficulty in setting up phone phreak barriers can be the corporate culture. Companies like easy communications and don't want to hinder employee access."

Given the risks, Steiner's tips are worth considering. He advises to make things difficult for hackers, by lengthening the DSSA code numbers or changing them on a regular basis. Systems can also be set up to restrict long distance calling.

To protect voice mail systems, users should be trained to frequently change their messages, and their passwords. And system administrators should routinely check for unused or assigned mailboxes.

For added protection and quick detection of toll-fraud activity, Steiner points to SwitchView, a family of telemanagement products that works

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with a company's PBX system. SwitchView allows companies to define "alarm" conditions for potentially fraudulent calls.

Another SwitchView module monitors all activity on the PBX maintenance port, so that hackers' attempts to turn off detection systems or set up DISA access are immediately detected.

"It takes an arsenal of built-in technological controls, revamped system administration procedures and employee awareness to combat toll fraud," says Steiner.

VISIT

GIVING TECHNOLOGY A
FRIENDLY FACE

The telephone and the computer are two tools that virtually every business — regardless of size, structure or products — needs to operate. With VISIT video, a radio-modem telecommunications product from Northern Telecom, these ubiquitous tools are becoming strategic business and technical partners.

VISIT increases the productivity and efficiency of employees, while improving the effectiveness of technology and other operating budgets. With VISIT, colleagues can talk to one another face-to-face and work on various documents, without leaving their desks. The executive's dilemma of choosing which meetings to attend, and which to forgo is solved. Groups of people can "meet" on VISIT simultaneously.

"VISIT will change the way people communicate," says Derek Prada, Northern Telecom's director of marketing for VISIT. "It will be a boon for organizations trying to build teams of people who are geographically dispersed."

VISIT video delivers real-time video, screen-sharing and file transfer capabilities, plus a range of telephone management features. Unlike similar technologies which operate over computer networks, VISIT is available whenever a business telephone line exists.

Using standard telephone lines, business col-

leagues see the person they're speaking to within a window on the computer screen.

Using VISIT's screen-sharing feature, employees can work on documents that appear simultaneously on their computer screens. They can discuss changes as they make them.

VISIT can be used to create and run presentations. The system takes high-resolution "snapshots" of any video image, which can be sent to another location or "inst and pect" into presentations.

Many large companies are in the process of installing VISIT for groups of employees in central, branch and employer's own "home" offices.

One of VISIT's pioneers is Joel Swerdlow, communications analyst with the Technology, Planning and Development Group of The Royal Bank of Canada. Swerdlow has been using VISIT voice (the telephone system management component) for over a year.

"Utilizing VISIT, I control my telephone and voice and system through my computer. I've created multiple directories of fellow employees, suppliers, etc., which allow me to point-and-click my mouse to find a number and place a call."

The system logs all incoming and outgoing calls, storing vital information, such as the time, date and duration of the call. A boon to people who bill by their hour, the system can be set up to calculate a dollar value for each conversation.

It can also be used to monitor the performance of telephone staff.

Swerdlow also points to the value of VISIT's voice call screening and calling number identification features, which "allow me to take only important calls, when I'm extremely busy. Also, I know when people have called but have not left a message."

Currently VISIT, which sells for approximately \$3750, operates on Apple Macintosh and IBM compatible computers with Microsoft Windows. The complex system includes software, a video circuit board, camera and cables

to connect to a customer's choice of network for public and private telephone networks.

TELECOM 2000 was edited by Jo-Anne Austin, President of MONTROVIA Marketing Services, a Toronto-based marketing agency that assists companies targeting the home-office marketplace.



"VISIT increases the productivity and efficiency of employees while improving the effectiveness of technology and other operating budgets."



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Special Report

Based on sex that it overlaps with erotic tension. Filmed entirely in Guyana, directed by Derrick Waskie, his son writes for *R*, a story of addiction. Michael Biech in a pungent drama about Matthew (Michael Biech), a Toronto medical student who returns to his Guyanese birthplace after his mother's death. A colonialist search of his past, he begins to lose his grip in the tropical heat.

But what gives Michael Biech an unusual authority is a scene that shows Biech going through a brief but unforgettable shot of his masturbating, fully erect. Even *First Prince*, with all the male nudity floating through it, shows no erections—which, with its much excitement point on, seems odd. Michael Biech has his own share of incoherencies, but in the context of Biech's art, and searching performance, the masturbations seem utterly appropriate.

Traditionally, sex in the cinema has focused on women—er, more precisely, women's bodies. But in the new Canadian movies, men are embracing the balance. In *Cap Town*, Quebec star Rex Duggan—the gay leader in last year's *Being of Color*—plays Alex, a delinquent who comes home to a rumble with his father in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Alex has after his sister, his mother and his best friend. In the opening scene, he grows the friend with a hard punch in the stomach, followed by a long kiss on the mouth.

A gothic family drama, the movie is that against a gorgeous landscape, an empty stretch of Charlottetown. Making his last debut, director Michel Langlois finds poetry in both the sexual setting and his story (perhaps—which scene) when Alex makes a show of running in and out of the water naked that behind his subconsciousing. Finally, the character's psychology remains so casual in the landscape that it is inevitable.

By contrast, *Le son de la cloche*, by Quebec director Pierre Baillet-Latour, is a thoroughly compelling drama. It is the story of Camille, a 12-year-old Montreal girl who lives with her mother and struggles to accept the fact that her father is now a transsexual named Marie-Pierre. The premise sounds glamorous, but the movie is not.

Denis Maréchal is wholly credible as the father who wears his new gender with a forced optimism. And Marianne-Claude Maréchal (his relative) who makes her acting debut as Camille, conveys the fierce emotion of early adolescence without ever playing cute or coy. There is a no-nonsense sexuality in Camille's long, somber face. And Luc Poirier who plays her conservative boyfriend, a leather boy with a limp, looks

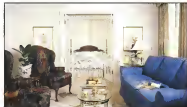
remarkably like her: they could be twins. As another reviewer, Canfield says: "I like the stars because they don't have sex." But it bothers her that the brothers are also dotted with double stars and galaxies: "Everything works by design—it's almost as if." Tracing elegant connections between

Colombini, offers a much more conventional tale of conflict between son and family. Set in the early 1950s on a Cuban island, it is about a story, extremely nervous school principal himself Hal (R. H. Thomson), whose rigid lines quickly become unravelled with the arrival of a sexy new French Canadian teacher (Michelle Beaudin). She shows up in a VR suit, wearing a mini-skirt and carrying a pistol. The children love her. And so does the principal, who leaps straight from a middle-class into a brutal affair.

Meanwhile, Hal's 10-year-old daughter works magic spells to try to set things right. Her teenage sister seeks salvation in the Beatles. And there's a mothering mother (Shirley McCarty) who for all it is to blow over. *Les Étoiles* though rarely shot by director Paul Szpilarski, is a precious, angry confession—its white-hot three back to the land of sex, our stories. Canadiana are expected to make, that, considering the current state of affairs, Canadian cinema may soon have a different kind of reputation to live down. □



The intimate and the universal. *Le son de la cloche* is an affecting, and highly original, coming-of-age movie. A story without sex—yet about sex.
Les Étoiles, a comedy from British



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RETURN OF THE SHARK

I **I**s an aggressively hot in Alamo, Ohio's "Rubber City," and Greg Norman looks ready to rock. He has played competitive golf for 27 straight days, and still has five more wearing rounds before a much-needed week off. Preparing for a charity event before the Nike World Series of Golf, he tries not to let the Alamo spectators' shrieking against the fumes around the dry-lying rough. He shows no signs of having a hot call "Nice shot, Mr. Norman" when he has his first sand shot into the hole in a practice green. (His second and third go in, too, but then the kid lets me off to tell a friend.) On the way to the first tee, he does not seem to notice a beautiful woman who, upon seeing his pants, sighs, "I can go home now, I've seen what I came to see." Once on the first tee, however, Norman is all smiles as he shakes hands and poses for photographs with his amateur foursome. And when it is his turn to drive, he adjusts his trademark persona (his, white arm and r-fles a shot straight down the middle. So much for fatigue. "I was very tired," he told Maclean's afterward. "But that's where pride comes into it. When you give yourself nice this kind of position, you have to carry yourself beyond where you think you are capable of going."

Norman has already gone where few sports personalities have ventured before. Around the world, the 35-year-old Australian known as the Green White Shark is revered only by the legendary Arnold Palmer in popularity among golfers, past or present. And according to published estimates of athletes' earnings, Norman's estimated income ranks second only to basketball star Michael Jordan, whose bank account is boosted by a white contract that pays more than \$10 million annually. This profile invites a share of hazards. At Alamo, for example, security broke down between the main greens and 10th tee, and Norman was accosted by a swarm of autograph-seekers. Youth in unisex high-tops and women in not enough chafing breast bandages and their hats and programs in his face, kids darted recklessly in and out of the tangle of legs. Norman somehow never broke stride, saying what he could be saying: reaching the register of the ropes around the tee. "We're living under such a microscope—he is a heavily scrutinized," says fellow golfer Phil Adams, currently the leading American on the PGA Tour. "I



feel for him, but Greg handles it beautifully."

If anything, the pressures following the former No. 1 golfer in the world are likely to get bigger still. After a 27-month period during which he left into an uncharacteristic violent slump, the Shark has sharpened his competitive north for another attack at the Open. And in a certain sense, his Canadian tour is a double-edged sword. It's his Canada tour that is at last year's Canadian Open at Glen Abbey in Oakville, Ont., that Norman broke out of his doldrums. He is particularly proud of that title, defeating Texas Bruce Lietzke in a playoff that lasted a series of many shots. "I'm so glad I won the Canadian Open as a playoff," says Norman, who is back at Glen Abbey this week to defend his title. "That did more for me than winning by three or four shots. What that told me was that I could play tough shots under a lot of pressure."

That victory launched off a chain reaction of successes. He shot an incredible 63 in the windy final round of the Johnnie Walker World Championship in Jamaica last December before narrowly losing to Nick Faldo in a playoff. He has won the field at the David Ryder Open at Merion, West March, with a winning total that was five strokes better than the previous tournament record. He overwheeled a star-studded leader board at the British Open in July with a final-round score of 61—a performance some golf historians called the greatest ever final round in a major championship. As a measure of his consistency, he has finished seventh or better in 13 of the 18 tournaments he has played in 1990, including his recent playoff win in the PGA championship. And there seems to be more to come. "I think that Greg, in the next four or five years, is going to stay one of the top players in the world," says Nick Price of Zimbabwe, a longtime friend and the 1991 Canadian Open champion. "His game is so sound, so solid. And he has the will to win."

By his own account, Norman returns to Canada in changed form. He still has the lean and rugged frame; the handsome, chiseled face, the predator's eyes and the thick white beard. Although he has shortened his backswing, he still attacks the golf course with abandon. As he showed in losing a playoff to Adams at last month's PGA championship, he remains gracious in defeat. And he has known defeat. He has suffered playoff losses in the Masters, the PGA and the U.S. and British Opens—what has been called the Grand Slammer. He has lost tournaments to opponents who seek accurately responsible shots on hot holes from bunkers, fringes or, once, from 180 yards back on the fairway. For years, he claimed that those losses did not get him down. But in the midst of his slump, he finally admitted that they had hurt him deeply. "I learned that the longer you hold something inside, the worse you are going to react to it," he says. "You might feel

good at the push having had a few rock shots and, if someone hits you the wrong way with something in conversation, you just pop. It makes you look like a jerk."

Norman also confided numerous stories speaking about the cause of his slump. Many suggested that he had been harmed then with corporate malice and events around the world—an explanation that Norman emphatically denies. "My schedule on and off the golf course has not changed in a decade," he says. "I can say that I probably played less and did less, during that time than at any previous time. But then, there are people who said that I was on drugs." Norman laughs that one off, but finally says that the media's criticism of his many second-place finishes has been harder to take. "I think that Greg Norman can win the British Open and lose the PGA championship in a playoff and get pissed by the media," Adams says. "I just think that people's ex-

pectations. Norman took up golf in his mid-twenties. By 19 he had learned his father that he had decided against joining the fire force (I wanted to fly F-14s) and would pursue a career in golf. "We always believed that my first thought is the right thought," he says. "My first thought was to be a golfer, not to be a member of a professional police."

By 1977, Norman earned his first invitation to play in America at Jack Nicklaus's Memorial Tournament in Dublin, Ohio. Later, O'Brien, now president of Nicklaus's Golden Bear International, recalls that Norman failed to qualify for the final two months, and failed it. "I remember that every morning he'd get up early and go hit 300 or more balls on the practice tee," O'Brien says. "He was so determined that this would not happen again." In 1978, Norman moved to England for the first of the years in the European Tour, where he finished 11th in the season. In 1984, when he has twice finished atop the PGA Tour's money list.

After the Canadian Open, having Norman return to defending champion holders in already strong field. "We win at the British Open and get help," says tournament director Bill Paul. "People want to come out and see him more than ever." They will also see Price, Adams, the 1989 PGA Player of the Year Fred Couples, U.S. Open winner Lee Janzen and even Nicklaus, along with Canadians Robert Doherty, Dave Barr and Don Haskins. "I want to be different to other tournaments, but the Canadian Open is a historical title, and that means something," says Price in explaining the event's popularity among the players. "It establishes your credibility worldwide. People remember national open championships."

Somewhere later this month, Norman and Price and their wives will slip away for a week to some remote place in the Bahamas and go diving and fishing and whatever else floats good at the time. It is something they used to do frequently, but schedules and celebrity have recently conspired to get in the way. Norman says that, afterward, he will take some time off. But can a shark ever rest? "I think I can," he says. "My wife says no." And can I ever get away from golf? "After 32 straight days, I was tired of playing," he says. "I did never have a day off, and even as a golf club for at least a week. And yet, there I was yesterday afternoon with any two club down, playing golf out in the backyard." As for his chances at this week's event, he says simply: "I am a better player now than I was a year ago." And a year ago, he was

Defending champ Greg Norman takes on the Canadian Open with a renewed appetite

perceptions of Greg are beyond what is his really possible."

Norman himself attributes the slump to a loss of focus. And he credits his recent to what he calls his seven-year rule. While keeping the details of the plan to himself, he admits that it is essentially a philosophical blueprint, something that craftsmen have on their list, not just what artists on the golf course. After seven years, Norman will be 42—an age beyond which few have proven themselves competitive. By then, his involvement in golf-course architecture and other pursuits will likely curtail his playing schedule. And in that time there will be seven more Masters, seven more U.S. and British Opens, seven more PGA Championships and seven more U.S. Open playoffs. It is a long haul, but Norman is not a quitter. "I've been competitive since I was 10," he says. "I've been competitive since I was 10."

By his own account, Norman returns to Canada in changed form. He still has the lean and rugged frame; the handsome, chiseled face, the predator's eyes and the thick white beard. Although he has shortened his backswing, he still attacks the golf course with abandon. As he showed in losing a playoff to Adams at last month's PGA championship, he remains gracious in defeat. And he has known defeat. He has suffered playoff losses in the Masters, the PGA and the U.S. and British Opens—what has been called the Grand Slammer. He has lost tournaments to opponents who seek accurately responsible shots on hot holes from bunkers, fringes or, once, from 180 yards back on the fairway. For years, he claimed that those losses did not get him down. But in the midst of his slump, he finally admitted that they had hurt him deeply. "I learned that the longer you hold something inside, the worse you are going to react to it," he says. "You might feel

Growing up in the Australian state of

James Hendon in Alamo

Adding spice to the Prairies



Susanne and Gary Schweitzer in their coriander field: neighbors complain the spice crop smells like dead bugs

Gary Schweitzer's coriander crop has been causing a stir in Eden, in the heart of some of Saskatchewan's best wheat-growing land. 120 km southwest of Saskatoon, Schweitzer, 36, planted 1,278 acres of the leafy herb-Mentha spicata plant this year, and everyone in the small farming community is watching his fields with curiosity. The wife, Susanne, 32, says that neighbors occasionally confuse it pulling up a few plants to use in their salads (When the plant is grown for its leaves, rather than the seeds, it is known as cilantro, a parsley-like herb). But others are less enthusiastic. "Some people don't like the smell, especially in the spring before it flowers," said Gary. "I've been told it smells like dead bugs." But Schweitzer says that he will keep experimenting with such spice crops as cumin, dill, dillseed (an ingredient in curry) and cress, and cress, the grasshoppers' favorite, because they are more profitable than wheat.

"I grew wheat on 60 per cent of my acreage last year," he said, "but it amounted to just five per cent of my revenue."

Schweitzer was one of the first farmers in Saskatchewan to grow spice crops commercially when he started in 1986. But now many others are trying out unconventional new crops. Although wheat is still by far the largest crop grown in the Prairies, heavily subsidized grain growers in France and the

United States are flooding world wheat markets and depressing prices. As a result, Canadian grain farmers have also become heavily dependent on government subsidies. But even with that support, wheat alone will no longer pay the bills for many farmers who are carrying large debts for land and equipment. However, the new crops, like lentils, peas, mustard, canary

Poor wheat prices are forcing farmers to try new crops. The results are surprising.

seed, sunflower, beans, spices and even rice, pose new challenges of their own. Not only do farmers have to worry about the disadvantages of raising the unfamiliar crop, but for the first time in their careers they also have to find markets for the products themselves, rather than relying on an established marketing board to sell their crop. They also have to contend with agricultural policies that are designed to support traditional crops, but that can discour-

age them from diversifying. "We have all ways grown high volume, low-value crops in Saskatchewan," said Schweitzer. "But we can't make money doing that any more. In the future, we're going to have to look for high-value crops, even if they'll never match the volumes of wheat."

Wheat has been king in the West for most of this century. Saskatchewan farmers seeded one million acres of wheat in 1925, the first year for which records are available. This year, they planted 15 million of the 32 million acres of wheat seeded in Canada. Not only are the Prairies well suited to growing grain crops like wheat, oats and barley, but decades of research have perfected agricultural techniques for these crops so that yields have increased significantly. No acre of land in Saskatchewan yielded an average of 80 bush of wheat in the bumper crop year of 1981, compared with 445 bush in 1916, an other year when growing conditions were ideal. But the price of wheat has not kept up with inflation. In 1986, a tonne of wheat sold for an average of \$47. By 1988, it reached an all-time high of \$206. But in 1992, after a decade of escalating international subsidy wars, the price had declined to \$113. "Wheat is still the biggest crop, and it's going to be for a long time yet," said Hershey Furtak, Saskatchewan's deputy minister of agriculture and food. "But we're actively trying to

encourage the development and adoption of new specialty crops."

With the continuing slump in wheat prices, many farmers are now showing interest in the new crops. The census profile in 1986 shows that acre of wheat earned an average net income of just \$11.36, Canada paid \$89.71 and lentils earned \$21.73 an acre. Some exotic crops paid even more. Carrots, for instance, is fetching about \$77.48 an acre, now. Attracted by these higher returns, the number of acres devoted to specialty crops in Saskatchewan has grown steadily in the past decade. In the past year alone, Saskatchewan farmers almost doubled the acreage devoted to specialty crops to 2 million, according to the 4.7 million acres of cropland, the wheat crop that was first planted in the early 1900s, and which has now become as common as the traditional grain.

Despite the successes, most Prairie farmers are still reluctant to try the riskier new crops. Overall, only about 10 per cent of Canada's 180,000 Prairie farmers are growing them. Alfred Stinkard, a University of Saskatchewan crop scientist in Saskatoon, who pioneered the development of lentils as a Prairie crop and who has conducted agricultural research in making Canada the second-largest lentil exporter in the world, says that growing wheat is just too easy. "I tell the farmers I talk to that their 16-year-old son could probably go out and grow a decent crop of wheat," says Stinkard. "It requires a minimum level of management to get an average yield." One of the reasons for that, through years of research, scientists have developed a range of herbicides and crop management techniques for the traditional grain crops. That similar research on some of the newer specialty crops is just beginning.

Gary Schweitzer, for instance, says that he now grows wheat to satiate all his fields year round to control weeds, not to make money. When he seeds a field with wheat, he knows what herbicides he can use safely to clear the field of weeds. But many conventional herbicides damage the newer specialty crops, like coriander, which are not members of the grass family. Herbicides for those new specialty crops have not been perfected yet.

Canadian agricultural policies have also discouraged diversification by subsidizing traditional crops and, at times, acting as disincentives for farmers to try new crops. Said Ken Rossmore, an agricultural economist at the University of Saskatchewan, "The policies have created dependencies. It's not as rational, but it's that the thing about Agriculture, food and rural affairs, they owe their seats to the company store." Herbert Dargatzis, president of the Western Canadian Farmers' Association, says that Prairie farmers are at a divided state and crop collectors, who want to sell the traditional crops and traditional marketing structures, and their co-operators, who are willing to try growing whatever they can on their land that will make a profit. Said Dargatzis, "The issue of agricultural policies have been designed with a single per-

pose in mind to grow grain for export." Now that government finances have become so constrained, he says, farmers recognize that the billions of dollars that they have received in support payments in the past decade may not be there in another 10 years.

But Schweitzer's experience shows how difficult it can be for a farmer to diversify. First, Schweitzer says, it took him almost five years of talking to his local stores and searching through the yellow pages from cities across North America before he found enough spice wholesalers to buy his crops. As well, Schweitzer had to be in a financial position to take on extra risk. By growing crops as untested as wheat, Schweitzer is vulnerable to the major risks of growing wheat, in effect, guarantee farmers a minimum income. In addition to those extra risks, crop insurance for such new specialty crops is so minimal it is so expensive, Schweitzer says, that he cannot afford it. The number is halved for those who sell to his co-ops.

Despite agricultural minister Furtak's acknowledgments that more government policies need to be modified to encourage diversification, Schweitzer, however, is not complaining about his financial situation. Like many younger farmers, he looks to be defying the longstanding claims of government dependency—and he is not afraid of summing extra risk to do it. The only limit of government support

that he would like to see is more research and development on the new crops.

Eden is Susanne's immediate kitchen, eating local cuisines is more sophisticated. August's corn wheat, from his fields, Schweitzer was optimistic about the future of farming. "We've only been here for a half a century," he said of Saskatchewan. "That isn't long enough to have discovered all of the things that we can grow in this place." A few years ago, he planted about 15 different kinds of plants in rows in his garden hoping to find one or two potential new crops. "In the end, it turned out that the problem was not finding one that would grow, it was choosing just one from a whole bunch of good possibilities." For many westerners, wheat may still be king. But, thanks to the Schweitzer experiment and others like it, farmers are now learning that wheat is not the only thing that will grow in the beautiful, harsh extremes of the Canadian Prairies.

DEBORAH BALGORD is a writer.



Stinkard: "It doesn't look good"

WAITING FOR THE SUN

Alfred Stinkard, an internationally renowned crop scientist at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, predicted his chance of success that he could no longer see the dark, threat-ridden clouds outside his office was dim, behind him in the back of his head, and said a German commodity trader on the telephone how this year's crop was doing. "Good," he said at least two weeks later, "but Stinkard" "I'd said practically the whole month of September without that and that doesn't happen very often. We haven't given up yet, but it doesn't look good."

Although the crop is bad and fall because of the plentiful rain that most parts of the Prairies received this summer, even after a year's worth of less work to completely dependent on the weather during the crucial harvest season. Swiftness—the actual cutting of the wheat—is beginning. Then, farmers need a week or two of warm, dry weather to open the grain in the field. "So much rain at a busy time during this period can turn a bumper crop into dead grain all right for harvest."

Stinkard says that the weather is due for a change. "We've had more than six weeks of cool, wet weather," he said. "That's almost unheard of for this." The good news is that as the sun lingers over the Prairies, grain prices are gradually creeping higher. With a sky full of clouds, it is a small silver lining.

R.D.



Waiting for the Tory Gravy Train

BY STEVE BURGESS

The word is that a new marketing campaign for the West Coast will aim to spruce up the image of a less-than-productive Tory. The idea could be to make the Tory more palatable to the electorate. But it could be a case of the Tories trying to make themselves more palatable to the electorate. But it could be a case of the Tories trying to make themselves more palatable to the electorate.

Believe it or not, Brian Mulroney's poll ratings have been falling. And it's not just the Tories who are losing ground. The B.C. wing of the Progressive Conservative party found a challenge roughly equivalent to getting Mick Jagger elected pope. Westerners felt that the federal government was simply sucking up money from around the country so that the prime minister could buy a top-level car at his favourite country estate.

Now that Vancouver's Kim Campbell is Prime Minister, westerners feel that the federal government is simply sucking up money from around the country so that the prime minister could buy a top-level car at his favourite country estate.

Around Vancouver this summer, these familiar freestyle freestyle stands virtually disappeared as unidentifiable Tory types prepared to bid on defence contracts, while their parents, protected from the real world by their parents, were still over-crowding on Kits Beach. Meanwhile, rumors have it that proposals have been floated that would see the transfer of numerous federal agencies to British Columbia, along with the Toronto subway system and the Ottawa Senators' (Grassroots) draft pick.

West Coast Liberals are staking their hopes on Jean Chretien. According to the Liberal agenda, a Chretien victory would be the equivalent of a huge federal subsidy to British Columbia's growing entertainment in-

Rumor has it that numerous federal agencies could move to British Columbia, along with the Toronto subway system

dustry. Stand-up comedians, entrepreneurs, cartoonists and historians of every variety will enter a Golden Era with Chretien as the Prime Minister's Office. It would be like having Ed Sullivan as prime minister: almost everyone will be able to do a possible impression of the PM.

However, British Columbia's federal Liberals will have to overcome the turmoil that has upset the party's provincial wing over the past year. B.C. Liberal leader Gordon Wilson made Liberal ML Jack Tyrling his House Leader, without informing him while that it was a full-time position. When stories began circulating that Wilson and Tyrling were taking turns playing Party Whip in their spare time, the two denied it. Presumably, however, they denied it, again and again, until they lay exhausted, their chests heaving. Following their deaths, they are rumored they were merged.

Compounding the problems for B.C. Liberal is that there is a diverse leadership race, as Vancouver Mayor Gordon Campbell seeks to replace Wilson as head of the provincial party. Speculation has been rampant that Mayor Campbell may make for a serious Liberal leadership challenge to win the heart of

Tyrling. Some rumors claim that Campbell was angling for Wilson's outgoing transportation minister job, which would include London and Toronto perhaps it could work for him as well. If he wins, the rumors say, Campbell plans to start wearing thick, dark-rimmed glasses and then in autumn take his coat.

The New Democrats have a big problem of their own in British Columbia: they are large part in the falling popularity of the provincial NDP government. Things are said to have gotten so bad that Mike Harcourt was set to announce his resignation as premier so that he could become president of the Fair Club for Men. The club is thought to have been founded by Harcourt, who has been labeled for reasons, replacing his own photo with a picture of Gennifer Good leader Jerry Green.

As for the federal New Democrats, recent reports have suggested that their leader, Audrey McLaughlin, although not all of the experts agree on this. To increase her visibility and polish her image, the NDP hired an American public relations firm. Party sources deny that the firm is quoted in *Los Angeles Times* as the best picture of her for Arnold Schwarzenegger's *Last Action Hero*.

As noted, the major parties have raised the crime issue early in the campaign. Kim Campbell's speech last week proposing changes to the Young Offenders Act has put her clearly on the record concerning lawless areas (she does not favor it). Her speech is widely seen as a clever attempt to outflank some of her opponents who are former supporters of somewhat violent crime. So far her adversaries have only avoided this trap by health warning that they too, oppose lawlessness.

Like any other issue, however, crime has its regional aspect. Several questions for the lower levels of subway halts in Toronto, but would be involved as the east, where the various transit systems seem simply to make mistakes and get away with it. The subway system is not likely to collapse about gas taxes, chiefly road repairs and potholes where almost none.

A crime fighting initiative designed to appeal to B.C. voters might focus instead on people who phone you up on Friday nights in July to ask you the question: "What's the deal with the subway?" to stay for a week and don't make a fuss, your master bedroom is just for you.

In the end, the battle for votes in British Columbia could be decided by the Tories. Things like the first Senate appointment in July to replace a Senator is very participating 7 times. More than a century after the last Spiller was driven, British Columbia are hoping that the Grey Train has finally reached the coast, with Kim Campbell steering the wheels.

Steve Burgess is a Vancouver writer, broadcaster and photographer.



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